

of  
ing  
ers

nth

ery  
L.  
ep-  
red  
by  
mil-  
ren  
of  
of  
ar-

and

asis  
and  
are  
ical  
bli-  
on  
the

ork.

are  
for

SEP 10 1943

# RECREATION

— September 1943 —



## We Bought a Park

By Frank Dunn

## Home Play on the Air

## More "Soda Pop" Centers

## Witches and "Punkin" Heads

## So This Is Tropical Languor!

By Kathryn C. Harwood

## Churches and Young People's Groups

Volume XXXVII, No. 6

Price 25 Cents

# RECREATION

Published by and in the interests of the National Recreation Association  
formerly named Playground and Recreation Association of America

Published Monthly

at

315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Subscription \$2.00 per year

RECREATION is on file in public libraries and is indexed in the  
*Readers' Guide*

## Table of Contents

	PAGE
The Unknown Recreation Leader (editorial), by Howard Braucher . . . .	309
More "Soda Pop" Centers . . . . .	311
The Bombardier . . . . .	311
Columbia's Teentown Night Club . . . . .	311
The "Cracker-Barrel" Forum . . . . .	312
Casper's Answer, by Carl Borders . . . . .	312
"The Ranch House" . . . . .	314
A Wartime Church Picnic, by Ruth Garber Ehlers . . . . .	315
Churches and Young People's Groups . . . . .	317
From an Annual Report . . . . .	319
We Bought a Park, by Frank Dunn . . . . .	320
The Place of Parks in a World at War, by V. K. Brown . . . . .	323
Home Play on the Air . . . . .	325
"Nuts!" You Too Can Make These Things, by H. W. Graef . . . . .	328
Why Archery? by Graham G. Berry . . . . .	331
Witches and "Punkin" Heads . . . . .	332
What They Say About Recreation . . . . .	335
So This Is Tropical Languor! by Kathryn C. Harwood . . . . .	336
A Simple Question . . . and a Simple Answer, by Homer C. Wadsworth . .	342
"Play with a Purpose," by Virginia McCartney . . . . .	344
Camping with Crippled Children, by Mary E. Church . . . . .	346
It's Being Done in Nature Recreation, by William Gould Vinal (Cap'n Bill) . . . . .	349
World at Play . . . . .	350
John J. Considine . . . . .	354
The National War Fitness Conference . . . . .	357
The Fifth Day of the Fifth Moon, by Brooks Atkinson . . . . .	358
Magazines and Pamphlets . . . . .	361
New Publications in the Leisure Time Field . . . . .	363

Entered as second-class matter June 12, 1929, at the Post Office at New York, New York, under Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized May 1, 1924.

Copyright 1943, by the National Recreation Association

## The Unknown Recreation Leader

VERY MUCH of the time men and women are working quietly on playgrounds and in recreation centers. Their names are seldom printed in the newspapers or spoken of in the churches or at the meetings of the service clubs. Even the children and young people who see them from day to day and are happier because of their leadership very often take them for granted. Fathers and mothers too are taken for granted. Often the better they are the more they are taken for granted and not noticed until they are absent.

It is, however, often the unknown recreation leader, the unsung recreation leader, who is responsible for a tremendous change in the groups of children coming to the playground. The happy outlook on life of the play leader is caught by the children. Deep and long to be remembered are the daily tragedies of youth, and yet they can be met the more readily when a real sense of proportion is obtained unconsciously by being with skilled, able recreation leaders.

It is very natural that recreation leaders should be taken for granted, that there should be very few tributes to them. Their satisfaction and their pay must be in seeing the joy of the youngsters, in watching them grow, in seeing the struggles which result in greater strength.

Growth is painful and yet it may be kept fairly joyful and the playground and the recreation center leaders have so large a part in this growth.

Some day we shall be wise enough to devise a way of expressing our debt to the unknown recreation leaders.

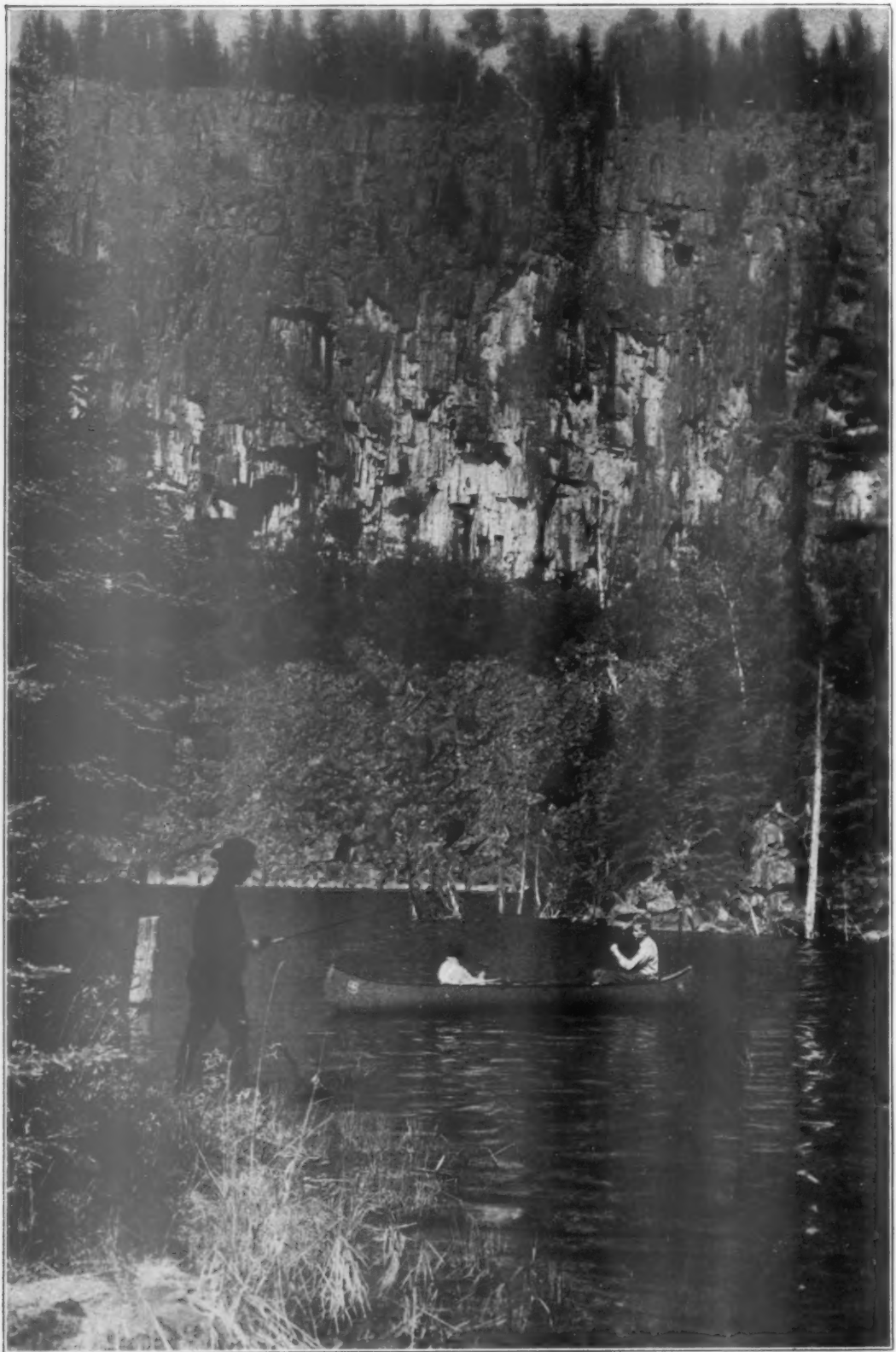
*Howard Brancher*

---

SEPTEMBER 1943

---

## September



*Courtesy Minnesota Municipalities*



## More "Soda Pop" Centers



*Courtesy Tribune Library, Minneapolis*

### The Bombardier

**S**TUDENT NAMED, student planned, student decorated, student requested, and student attended, The Bombardier at the Y.W.C.A. in Des Moines, Iowa, is a popular meeting place for young people.

The decorations in the club were made by volunteers and students. The snack bar, made entirely by high school students, is done in black and silver—silver planes on a black background. Behind the bar is a backdrop with the same motif which was done by volunteers. Table covers of dull black oilcloth also have silver plane designs. The lights are covered by large hatboxes painted black, with five airplane silhouettes cut out of each, and the menus are black with a silver design covered with X-ray film donated by local hospitals and doctors.

Many things have been contributed to the club—a refrigerator delivered at the "Y" by the Park Department truck, a number of games and, in response to a plea in the local paper, four victrolas. Wax for the dance floor, too, was donated.

The club is open on Mondays from 7:30 to 9:30 P. M., and on Fridays and Saturdays from 7:30 to 11:30 P. M. A ten cent cover charge is made to pay for the music. There is an orchestra once a week and a floor show at least once a month. The rest of

the time the young people dance to a nickelodeon.

Sponsored by the Girl Reserve Department of the Y.W.C.A., The Bombardier is governed by an interclub council composed of two representatives from each high school Reserve Club, and a representative boy or two from each high school. Students from the high schools take turns preparing and serving the sandwiches, milk, and soft drinks.

Dancing is popular, but badminton, ping-pong, Wahoo and other table games are in high favor. On the opening night, May 21, 1943, over 300 teen agers were present, and in spite of the hot weather they continue to come—not always 300 strong, but in goodly numbers.

### Columbia's Teentown Night Club

**A** CASUAL VISITOR to Teentown in Columbia, Missouri, any afternoon or evening of the week will find scores of youngsters lined up at the bar, dancing to the strains of a juke box, or playing a number of different games.

But all the drinks served at this "night club's" bar are of the soda pop and milk variety, and the latest closing hours are 12 midnight on Saturdays and 11:00 P. M. on Sundays, while during weekday nights festivities end at 9:00 P. M.

The Teentown Night Club and bar belongs exclusively to Columbia youths—anyone over eighteen years of age comes in the classification of adults and is automatically barred. Just how the young people of this city are taking to the new kind of night life is evidenced by the attendance records which have totaled more than 150 a day, according to figures issued by the city recreation director who stated that this is much higher than anyone expected.

Much national publicity was accorded Teentown when Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt mentioned it in her daily column, "My Day," after a visit to Columbia.

Teen agers pay only a twenty-five cent yearly membership fee and dues of ten cents a month to obtain the use of the club and its facilities for dancing, card games, Chinese checkers, checkers, aerial darts, and table tennis.

The idea of Teentown was thought up by the City Recreation Commission, which took over the basement of a local church. The City Council voted \$500 for redecoration and equipment.

Today, Columbia boys and girls can spend their after-hour recreation time together, dancing and playing healthful, entertaining games at their own night club and bar, in an experiment which proves that this form of recreation has not only been successful but has paid dividends many times over in the form of happy, busy youngsters.

## The "Cracker-Barrel" Forum

THE SMALL COMMUNITY of Colchester, Connecticut, with its population of 2,338, is busy nowadays with its "Cracker-Barrel" Forum and its recreation activities for young people and adults.

The Forum attracts the attention of a great many younger and older people, who meet once a month at different homes to discuss current topics of interest particularly to the young people. An advisory Community Council, under the auspices of the Hartford County Y.M.C.A., directs the meetings. The two-year-old Council, which acts as a clearing house on all youth problems, is composed of a mill owner, a doctor, a member of the faculty of the grammar school, and a faculty member and the principal of Bacon Academy. The Council has assisted in furnishing leaders for youth groups, has helped to solve individual problems, and has aided in financing recreation programs.

Realizing the value of wholesome amusement as an antidote for juvenile delinquency, Bacon Academy in Colchester instituted an Open House program twice a week for everyone—from grammar school students to defense workers who stop in for a game of ping-pong on their way to or from work. Games and an electric victrola have been furnished largely by contributions of former Bacon Academy students who are now working. The average attendance is fifty persons an evening.

As an outgrowth of this program, a group of older boys and girls from Bacon Academy have started a similar program in Westchester in a

schoolroom which is not being used at the present time. The problem of delinquency had been bothering the older people of that section of Colchester, and they had tried in vain to furnish some recreational facilities which would appeal to a certain group of mischievous boys. The youth of Bacon Academy felt they could handle the situation, and they have proved that they are capable of assuming leadership and maintaining control of this group.

Another phase of the recreation program in Colchester is a youth leadership training group composed of sixteen representatives who have shown leadership possibilities in their youth organizations—Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Young Judea Club, American Legion Auxiliary, Colchester Open House, Westchester Open House, and Bacon Academy Student Council. These young people meet once a month to discuss problems which face them in their work as leaders, and they go out in special groups to near-by communities to assist in putting on parties and entertainments which are held in homes and churches. Named the "Arthur Stebbins Leadership Circle," the group has as its motto, "Faith and friendship be our guide."

A committee wrote the following ritual which these youth members recite at their regular meetings: "As members of the Arthur Stebbins Leadership Circle, faith and friendship be our guide. We accept and acknowledge a responsibility to others. We are linked together to help each other, to help our youth, to help our town and all its worth-while life. Our help shall be given regardless of race, creed, or color. It is the responsibility of the members of the Arthur Stebbins Leadership Circle to help all who need our help. We do this work because we wish to wipe out the impure and put in its place friendship, kindness, fair play, honesty, and fairness. We look upon our task as an opportunity and an honor to serve our community."

## Casper's Answer

By CARL BORDERS

President

Casper Coordinating Council

FACED BY THE YOUTH problems which are confronting many communities in wartime America, Casper, Wyoming, has taken care of them to a large extent by the creation of a special recreation center for youth known as the "Campus Canteen."

Many organizations, clubs, churches, and civic groups in the community, together with the school

authorities, were interested in helping the young people. After several meetings had been held it was decided that the Coordinating Council, which had for several years been dealing with youth problems, was the logical organization to sponsor a youth program. The responsibility was willingly accepted by the Council which made it plain, however, that it must have the all-out support of the people of Casper.

This support was promptly forthcoming, with the result that today our young people have a "night club" which meets with the approval of their parents. Best of all, the club was their own choice, for one of the first steps taken by the Council was to put to high school students the question, "What do you need and want most?" When a vote had been taken, it was found that what these young people wanted above everything else was a recreation center of their own. After weeks of hard work on the part of many citizens, and with the wholehearted support of the entire population, the Campus Canteen became a reality.

In order to put the idea across, it was necessary to have sufficient funds to carry on, and this problem was solved when the Casper Community Chest offered to aid. The Canteen is supported in full by the Chest, which provides the salary of a full-time director. The city administration furnishes space in the old city hall, having previously moved the seat of government to a new city-county building. Lights and heat for the Canteen also are provided by the city.

The Canteen is open nightly during the summer months from 7 to 10 o'clock, Monday through Friday, and to 11 o'clock on Saturday nights; it is closed Sunday nights. During the school months the Canteen will be open from 3:30 to 5:30 P. M. and from 7 to 10 P. M.



*Photo by Flood, Casper Herald-Tribune*

**The "Campus Canteen" was Casper's answer to the request of the city's youth for a center of their own**

The student body — which includes boys and girls of both high school and junior high school age — elects four of its members as a governing group to work with the Coordinating Council and director. There are several other committees, such as program, recreation, publicity, building, and membership, which work under the direction of the student governing council.

A nominal fee of twenty-five cents is charged for the summer months and fifty cents for the school year. A membership card is issued which can be revoked by the student council, if it deems necessary, for infractions of the rules governing

the Canteen.

The High School Swing Band plays for the dances on Saturday nights, and special

programs are given by the program committee. During week nights music for dancing is provided by a juke box.

The soft drink bar, a popular part of the Canteen, is run by the members. Profits from this project, along with membership dues, go into the special Canteen fund which is handled by the student finance committee.

Among the many features of the Canteen are two "Powder Puff" rooms for the girls.

Table tennis is one of the most popular forms of recreation, and the tables are in constant use when the center is open. Many other games are enjoyed, such as chess, checkers, darts, cards, and shuffleboard. Groups are always around the piano, playing and singing.

A chaperon system has been worked out whereby each night a man and wife are at the Canteen. There are a great many persons who give their services, and in this way we have a different couple each night. A telephone also is maintained so that the parents of children can call them at any time.

In addition to the Campus Canteen, which is



used exclusively by the high school and junior high school students, the Coordinating Council is sponsoring a grade school summertime athletic and playground program, with boys' and girls' softball games as the chief form of activity.

Yes, Casper was challenged by her youth and that challenge has been met. We believe the youth of the community have benefited from the efforts of their fellow townspeople, but we cannot stop now because the work has just started. The young people of the community are joining in this program nearly a hundred per cent, thus providing the one sure guarantee that a youth movement can be carried on successfully.

The youth of Casper are to be congratulated for their untiring efforts in putting the Campus Canteen across to their own enjoyment and to the satisfaction of all concerned. We in Casper are proud of our girls and boys, and as citizens of this community of 22,000 people we are eager to help provide them with enjoyable recreation now while they are in their formative years.

## "The Ranch House"

**A**RKANSAS CITY, KANSAS, is a community of around 13,000 population, in the midst of big-ranch country. Because of this, the appropriate name, "The Ranch House," won first prize in a city-wide contest for the best name for the new recreation center under way for the teen age youngsters.

So The Ranch House it is, and Ranch Foreman B. A. Tubbs, Jr., called together his ranch hands and dude wranglers recently to have a report on the progress of the remodeling of the old Y.M.C.A. building. The remodeling has cost \$500, all of which was contributed enthusiastically by townspeople, churches, social agencies, and business groups. Only \$50 has been spent for furniture. This will consist of a divan and

---

"The Ranch House" in Arkansas City, originally a YMCA building, is now a genuine Western recreation center for Western boys and girls.

---

barrel chair from Texas, made of skins and painted with cowboys and Indians. Yippee!

The girls and boys have scrubbed floors and washed woodwork and windows. The brackets to hold the draperies were made by the boys. They are forked sticks, skinned, sandpapered and varnished. Some furniture, too, is being made out of sticks of this type.

Making the curtains will be the next big step. The girls will make them out of monk's cloth edged with brown rope.

The Chuck Wagon (lunch room) has a counter with red linoleum on top, and curtains made by splitting an old-fashioned red and white checked table cloth. The Cook Shack (kitchen) will have blue and white checked tablecloth curtains. The Corral (outside yard) is getting a good grooming, too, with scythes and lawn mowers hard at work.

*(Continued on page 356)*



*Photo by Flood, Casper Herald-Tribune*



# A Wartime Church Picnic

By RUTH GARBER EHLERS  
National Recreation Association

**W**HAT a predicament!  
Time to stage the  
Annual Sunday

School Picnic and no gas!  
No motor buses to charter!  
No way to get to the beaches!  
City pools so crowded with the regular swimmers that large organized groups were discouraged!  
Crowded street cars!  
Longer working hours for adults!  
What an impossible situation when a good time for everyone was at stake.

For years, large motor buses had come to our church on the morning of the day of the Annual Picnic, and the boys and girls with bright, clean faces and starched playclothes waited impatiently for the parents and teachers to take care of last minute loading of baskets and play equipment. What a thrill it was to hear the motor speed up and the gears grate into place. With cheers and singing the buses were off for a day of swimming and fun. We had become so used to this kind of a Sunday School Picnic that even the thought of doing anything else was taboo.

So it was with "crossed fingers" and "tongues in cheeks" that the committee sat down to plan the Annual Picnic. After quite some time had been spent in wishing, we faced the facts and evolved a plan to make it an old-fashioned get-together, fun for all ages, using picnic stunts that were popular years ago.

**The Committee Meeting.** We were in the midst of the first step—the committee meeting of teachers of the Sunday School. The most difficult task was to select the place—and it was only as a last resort that we chose the "Backyard of the Church." Fortunately, the "backyard" was a beautiful expanse of green grass. A tree here or there and the church building provided shade, and a smooth, flat area was a perfect place for the baseball game. The favored areas were quickly chosen by the teachers for certain groups. They were glad that necessary facilities would be available and there was no question about the purity of the drinking water. Little by little we began

**Even the planners were surprised  
at this successful backyard party!**

to realize that perhaps we had stumbled onto something worth while. As the possibilities of "staying home" presented themselves, enthusiasm grew and everyone caught the

badly needed spirit to "put it over."

**Publicity Campaign.** To sell the idea to the church and community something very definite had to be done. A dodger was distributed to all church members and people living in the community. It told where and when and how the picnic would be held.

**Purchasing and Securing Supplies.** Each teacher took over the task of getting the supplies needed for his or her particular group. Balloons, lollypops, prizes, ribbons for the winners, dart games, and bowling on the green were on the shopping list. The Baltimore Department of Public Recreation loaned the ball and bat, horseshoes, bean board and bags, blocks for the potato race, and eggs and spoons. Equipment for the stunts was collected, and by this time many people were working hard to make it a success.

**Preparation of the Grounds.** Men and women arrived early to mark off the baseball diamond, the volleyball, deck tennis and horseshoe courts, the bowling alley, and other play areas. They carried out tables and chairs, for we know well that people enjoy a "comfortable picnic." Red, white and blue napkins folded in triangles, pinned on heavy cord, and strung from the corners of the church gave an added note of festivity and gaiety. The stage was now set for the actors and audience.

## Afternoon Program

### Nature Quiz—2:00 P. M.

As the guests arrived they were invited to join in a nature quiz — men and women, boys and girls. On the shady side of the building, exhibits of vegetables, weeds, seeds, pests, foliage of trees or flowers were displayed on long tables. Signs reading—"If you were weed-

"There is great significance in the term that we use for our leisure and our play. We call it recreation. And so it is. It makes us over, refreshes and cheers us, gives us new life and spirit for our higher tasks. It has a direct bearing upon our moral and spiritual development."—*Bishop William T. Manning.*

ing your Victory Garden which of these would you pull?" "Which of these will the Japanese Beetles destroy?" "Which of these are good to eat?"—All of the specimens were numbered, a teacher corrected the papers, and presented the prizes at the "Community Night."

#### Games and Contests—3:00 P. M.

Little Tots—Sheltered area near church:

Circle games	Stories
Contests	Treasure hunt

Juniors:

Dart games	Bowling on the green
Games and contests	Treasure hunt

Intermediates:

Games and races  
Volleyball  
Deck Tennis  
Horseshoes  
Ball game

Seniors and Adults

(men):

Horseshoes  
Volleyball  
Baseball (Since all the young men were away, the Bible Class men played against the other men of the church)

Women:

Bean bag toss  
Rolling pin throw  
Walking the line looking through opera glasses  
Bowling on the green

The members of the Women's Guild took this opportunity to sell lemonade and soft drinks and their profits reached amazing heights during the contests and games.

#### The Picnic Supper—5:30 P. M.

The tables were arranged in long rows, and it became a large "family supper." The minister, after all were seated, took this opportunity to comment on the good time all were having—how it reminded him of days long ago when churches had their "get-together-socials"—how their spirit of play and fun had been manifested through the various games—how they had had time to talk and visit with one another and how thankful all

should be that we in this country can still enjoy an afternoon and evening of fellowship, undisturbed. He concluded by asking a blessing on the food which was so plentiful and so appetizingly arranged. It was a happy dinnertime and did much toward cementing the bonds of friendship.

#### The Community Night—7:00 P. M.

Tables were carried inside, left-over food and baskets were packed again and the chairs were placed in a large semicircle.

Singing well known songs was a good beginning. The harmonizing voices in the quiet of a cool summer evening were very effective.

**Awards.** Special awards to winners were presented. (Candy and popcorn novelties and handmade crepe paper badges were inexpensive, but effective.)

**Clean-up Squads.** All formed a long line at the far end of the grounds, and as they sang "I've Been Working on the Railroad," they walked slowly, picking up picnic debris from the lawn. In less than five minutes the grounds were cleared. (The comments of the guests made this activity one of the highlights of the picnic.)

**Contests.** Pounding nails in boards, hus-

band calling, hog calling, Happy Hooligan race, balloon swats, even a peanut scramble and a barber shop quartette were enjoyed by old and young.

**Singing.** As the darkness began to close in, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" and "Good Night, Ladies," floated through the air, expressing a happiness that comes when enjoyment is shared by many.

**The Aftermath.** Those who lingered made these interesting comments: "More people came than have come for years." "No one went home with too much sunburn." "More women were here." "Whole families were present." "It was cheaper—no admission to the grounds." "We knew that

(Continued on page 362)

## PICNIC & FIELD DAY

### Hunting Ridge Presbyterian Sunday School

Place: CHURCH LAWN

Date: SATURDAY, JULY 24th

Time: 2 P. M.

Bring: Yourself, your family and your picnic supper.

**Games . . . Contests . . . General Good Time  
For Both Young and Old Youngsters**

**COME AND HELP MAKE THIS  
AN AFTERNOON OF REAL  
FELLOWSHIP AND FUN**

# Churches and Young People's Groups

Many requests for help and information which come to the Correspondence and Consultation Bureau of the National Recreation Association present problems of far-reaching importance and interest.

VERY OFTEN the requests for help and information received by the Correspondence and Consultation Bureau of the National Recreation Association present such universal problems and touch so intimately on matters of common concern that they and the replies to them are of widespread interest.

Many letters reach the Association from church groups which now more than ever before are realizing the needs of their young people for recreation and are seeking to meet these needs.

From the Rev. A. Karl Boehmke, Assistant Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Missouri, comes the following request for help:

"Could you give us advice on outlining a program of recreation for our young people's societies?"

"We have three such societies: a Sophomore League, with ages 11-13; a Junior League, with ages 13-17; and a Senior League, with ages 17-30. All these societies are affiliated with the International Walther League which has recreation as a definite part of its youth building program, but which can furnish material only in a limited way, since it covers also the religious aspects of youth develop-

ment. We would like a more comprehensive recreation program, with some kind of a guiding philosophy behind it.

"Our leagues are average church young people's societies. They are mixed groups. Their numbers range from thirty-five to fifty. The members are for the greater part high school pupils or graduates.

"We have recently acquired a meeting room in the basement of our church building. The room measures 30' x 50'. Upon occasion it must become part of a large auditorium; however, some permanent equipment can be set up. We already have ping-pong tables and dart ball, and are contemplating shuffleboard and other games, and a workbench in a small alcove.

"Could you:

1. Suggest material which would help us in furnishing our meeting room.
2. Suggest material that would help us determine the correct balance between the religious and recreational, as well as purely educational, features of our program.
3. Make suggestions for a game book library

"Let it be their room—a hang-out room, as some groups call it—from the very start."



Courtesy Lancaster, Pa., Recreation Association



with which our young people could plan their meetings and socials. (We try to let them do their own planning.)

4. Offer any other suggestions which you think might be of value to us."

#### The Answer

In reply, the Correspondence and Consultation Bureau wrote:

"In giving you suggestions for furnishing your church recreation room and planning its program, the first and most important one is to let the young people themselves do as much of it as possible. Let it be their room—a hang-out room, as some groups call it—from the very start. The older groups can build, buy, or beg small, sturdy tables and chairs just large enough for two people who are checker or chess addicts. We advocate the small size because the games can be painted on their tops, thus saving the buying of game boards, and because they can be moved easily and readily, either out of the way entirely or for new arrangements suitable for special programs.

"Privacy for those interested in crafts or discussions may be had by building and using simple screens, also easily movable. These screens will be very useful. They can be used as partitions, as bulletin boards, as stage sets for plays, and pantomimes, and for a puppet stage. You will find complete directions for making such screens in the May 1942 issue of our magazine, *RECREATION*, available in the Periodical Room of the Public Library in Kansas City. A raised platform, made in sections, so that it too may be stored away, is very useful. It will aid greatly in amateur dramatics, group singing, and the like.

"The girls can make the curtains, paint the furniture, and perhaps make rag rugs. Even the youngsters can really be useful. There are many games and puzzles that they can make, as permanent play equipment. They could be put in charge of setting up a game cupboard and a puzzle shelf.

"The second point that we would emphasize is to work out, with the young people's groups, objectives, both immediate and long-range. These objectives, while they need not be actually religious in purpose, should be community-minded—the attainment of which would give pleasure or joy to other groups, both in and out of the church.

"The choosing of these objectives will open the door for program coordination. For example, the Senior League might make plans for a community night, and committees from the other age groups

be put in charge of tickets, decorations, refreshments, guessing games, circle games, simple square dancing, and the like.

"Also, music and drama can be coordinated in daily or weekly periods, leading up to a dramatization of Christmas carols, a crèche scene (bringing in handcrafts), traveling carolers, a community Christmas tree with caroling. Other church holidays offer interesting possibilities too seldom used. In other words, what the groups learn for themselves let them give to others. It will make for a much more satisfying and socializing influence.

"If other recreation programs and facilities are available to your groups, we would suggest that your program should not compete with, or duplicate them. Your groups should know about the others, use them, and supplement them with a program carefully planned to contain activities and objectives peculiar to itself, with its own flavor and originality.

"The typed description of one kind of program will interest you, and under separate cover we are sending you our bulletin on Play and Recreation in the Church, which will amplify some of the ideas in this letter.

"For our own material we have checked those items in our special lists that offer program material suited for your use. It will be easy to build up a good but inexpensive recreation library from these suggestions.

"If you plan to train any of your groups for recreation leadership, look up the January 1942 issue of *RECREATION*, and read the account of such a course given by Mr. Hallock of the Indianapolis Y.M.C.A. It is entitled 'Service to the Church Through Leadership Training.'"

Churches and all other community groups working with our young people will find many helpful suggestions for their programs in the recently published booklet, *Teen Trouble*, extracts from which appeared in the April 1943 issue of *RECREATION*. This practical booklet not only discusses some of the many problems which boys and girls are facing in wartime, but tells how a number of American cities are seeking to find a solution for these problems through the provision of interesting and challenging programs of recreational activities planned specifically to meet the needs and preferences of this age group. Copies of this twenty-four page publication may be secured at ten cents each from the National Recreation Association.





Courtesy Recreation Department, Austin, Texas

## From an Annual Report . . . .

*The Acting Superintendent of Recreation in Austin, Texas, reports that rationing of gas and tires placed new emphasis on the importance of community programs during 1942.*

"NOT ONE COMMUNITY center but four" is the report from the Recreation Department of Austin, Texas, for 1942. This increase was made because of the need for additional neighborhood recreational opportunities in view of the curtailment on driving. Broad programs of activity were offered at the centers, including dancing, dramatics, sports, and games.

Among the fifteen types of cooperation listed by the department in its annual report was the plan worked out with the University of Texas, whereby the department provided talented children from among those coming to the playgrounds for the experimental drama work of the University Dramatic School. The training the boys and girls received was well worth while and raised the standard of the acting in the department's annual dramatic festival. In return for the assistance given by the children Dramatic School students presented a one-act play on a number of the playgrounds.

For the first time in 1942, the various mothers' clubs associated with the playgrounds participated

in a city-wide playground pageant, "Fiesta," presented on the West Austin playground. Members of the club helped decorate the grounds and then appeared as vendors of gayly colored Mexican articles. More than 300 children danced, played, and sang in the pageant.

For the first time, too, the city-wide central council of the mothers' clubs held each of its monthly meetings at different playgrounds. The new plan gave members of the local mothers' clubs the opportunity of serving as hostesses to the central council. For these meetings, informal programs consisting of demonstrations by the children arranged by playground leaders added to the enjoyment of the mothers.

An interesting development in the program came with the placing of two museums under the administration of the Recreation Department. Early in 1942 the Elizabeth Ney Museum, deeded to the city the previous year, was put under the jurisdiction of the department. The Advisory Board of the Texas Fine Arts Association still assumes full responsibility for the activities of the museum, but the Recreation Department, which takes care of maintenance, salaries, and utilities, has contributed greatly to the attractiveness of the buildings and grounds.

The museum is now serving the community in

(Continued on page 352)



*Courtesy Union County, N. J., Park Commission*

## We Bought a Park

By FRANK DUNN

I HAVE BEEN TEACHING in the public schools for a long time, trying to tell the kids that this country really has a government of the people. It looks good on paper. The kids are always deeply impressed. They believe that we have a democracy, but as an adult living in the world outside of school, I'm afraid I had my doubts. I haven't any longer.

In school one day we had a lesson on *Democracy*. The principle to be evolved was, "In a democracy, if a sufficient number of people wishes a public improvement, the opportunity to get the improvement is always possible." I had always hoped that this was true. Now I know that it is, and I can talk about it with more confidence, because, you see, we've just bought a park.

That park is a reality now, although a year ago it was a dream, a fantastic dream. When I walk down the street now, I meet Harry or Lester or Joe and with their greeting there passes between us a kind of knowing wink as if we are saying to each other, "Well, boy, we did it. Yes, sir, we did it. And if the chance ever comes, we'll do it again."

Our town is just like your town. We have a small plot called Cannon Green, a triangular piece of turf where pyramids of cannon balls decorate the vertices. In the center is a granite pedestal which supports an old cannon. A bronze plaque proclaims the names of our boys who went to serve their country in the last war. The Community Service Station is located at the busy intersection. Across the street is the chain store, displaying its gaudy red front to the afternoon sun. A long, low, one-story building houses the drug store, butcher market, Joe's barbership, and the post office. The old trolley rails are partly covered by asphalt, but here and there a gleam of brilliant steel shows through, reminding us all that maybe they should be dug up and salvaged for the war effort. Our town is like yours, except that now we know what the little fellow can do.

We didn't at first, of course. You know the kind of small talk our town indulges in. "The trouble is those birds in city hall are grabbing everything for themselves." "I wish someone had the guts to tell them off!" "Too bad nobody cares, they shouldn't let that happen." "They lost their chance twenty years ago, I don't know what they were thinking of to let that chance slip by." "What are they going to do about the old school grounds?"

One Sunday morning about a year ago, Earle, the chief of the volunteer fire department, came to see me. "I just heard that Bayley is going to sell Roton Point," he said.

"Yes, Earle, I had been expecting something of the sort. What with the government's confiscation of his excursion steamer, and the gasoline rationing, it doesn't seem possible that he can make it pay for the duration."

"Listen, Frank, you're the president of the Civic Association. Let's go see Bayley and ask him how much he wants for the park. Maybe we can get the town to take it over."

As we drove by the barricaded entrance to Roton Point, the faded sign over the wide gate an-

nounced, *"The Prettiest Park on Long Island Sound."* The wild azaleas scattered through "Knickerbocker Grove" of tall oak trees needed no sign to tell how pretty they were. As we walked through the park, the sun was glittering off the Sound and the waves lapped gently on the beaches. We stood on the hill. Twenty-two acres — ball ground, parking space, roadways, garish roller coaster, refreshment stands, dance hall, pier, bath houses, hotel, rustic summer house, and off in the distance Long Island.

On a bench sunning themselves were Mose, the groundskeeper, and two other fellows. "Is Bayley around? I hear he wants to sell the park," Earle addressed all three and no one in particular.

Mose scratched his chin, "Why, no, he's not around, but his assistant Harry is home; I think you could see him. Anything special?"

"Yes, I want to ask him the price of the park, maybe the town would be interested."

There was a cynical sneer on the face of the little stout guy sitting next to Mose. He said that they'd never stand for it. He said that with taxes the way they were—with the war—with the price he wanted—they'd never stand for it. But Earle and I were off to see Harry.

Harry looked at us quizzically. It was true; the park was for sale. The price—well, make an offer. Mr. Bayley doesn't know how much he can get for the park. The decision has been precipitated so suddenly, and it was such a large piece of property that the final price will probably be the result of bargaining.

On the train going into the city I struck up a casual conversation with one of my neighbors. "I hear that Roton Point is for sale," I said. "Wouldn't it be nice if the town stepped in and bought it?"

"Yes, it would be fine but they'll never do it. They lost their chance twenty years ago when they didn't acquire Columbus Grove."

There it was again, the indefinite THEY. Who were they? The kids in school have the answer to that one. "The voters," the kids say. Well—I decided to ask them.

The next week in the mail to all the voters was a letter from the President of the Rowayton Civic Association telling them that Roton Point was for sale. The letter was in the form of a catechism, outlining the democratic procedure necessary if they wished to acquire the park. A meeting was called to discuss the project. George, a cartoonist neighbor, had brightened up the mimeographed

---

***The people of Rowayton, Connecticut, bought themselves a park—and discovered that grass-roots Democracy works***

---

letter with sketches of the "taxpayer" in a barrel, sweating over the thought of increased taxes!

"This meeting will please come to order."

Was that my voice? How queer it sounded. Maybe it was the heat. What was causing the terrific pounding of my heart? In the front row sat Mr. R. glowering at me with a kind of how-dare-you look in his eye. The rest was a sea of faces. Here THEY were. The faces came into focus. There was red-headed Chubby, the kid who used to steal my apples. That pretty girl next to him must be his new wife.

Jack, my bridge partner, was out there smiling encouragement to me. The cynical little stout guy looked as though he was tasting something bitter. The queenly chairlady of the Red Cross Committee was tucking in a stray wisp of gray hair.

"Mr. Chairman! Mr. Chairman!"

I felt what was coming. Mr. R. had said that he was going to oppose it. I rapped the gavel, "Mr. R. has the floor."

"Mr. Chairman, I rise in denouncement of this ridiculous — unthinkable — nation under stress, boys giving their lives — unsettled economic — assessed valuation — hundred thousand — tax rate — scurrilous representation of the taxpayer on the circular — sue for libel (my bridge partner was grinning broadly, Sue and Jenny were tittering) — place under water half the time — hasn't a clear title — national emergency — frittering away public funds — trespassing on the rights of innocent citizens — burdening future generations — I have always advocated — so therefore I call upon every right thinking — and in conclusion let me —" and with a grand flourish of important looking documents, he took his seat.

"Mr. Chairman!"

"The Chair acknowledges Mr. C."

"Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that there is a high penalty placed upon the ownership of property. A man buys a piece of property and then finds that there are assessments, taxes, responsibilities and no end of care, and I object heartily to any movement to increase taxation."



This type of argument proceeded for one hour. Not a person spoke in favor of the idea. Finally, from the floor, "Mr. Chairman!"

"Mr. Chairman, I have listened to all of the arguments here tonight and, from what I can gather, no one wants this project to go on. I should like to call for a vote, or a showing of hands right now to find out how many want the park and how many don't want it."

"Will those in favor of continuing negotiations for this park signify by raising their right hands?" That was my voice again.

Hands, hats, and handkerchiefs filled the air. Shouts and whoops and stamping of feet rocked the foundation of Library Hall. When the commotion had somewhat subsided, the call was given for those wishing to discontinue the negotiations. The fifteen articulate members stood up. A motion to adjourn, subject to the call of the chairman, was then made. The non-articulate Little Man had won round one.

The committee of three waited on Mr. Bayley. He kept chain smoking his cigarettes so that the discarded ones formed a ring around his swivel chair. "And young man, and Mr. Commissioner, and my charming 'Duchess,' come see me as often as you like. I have made up my mind. The price is seventy-five thousand dollars, ten thousand to be paid down on the first of September. I can and will negotiate a suitable mortgage. Good afternoon."

Then came an unofficial meeting of those representative people who were in favor of the project. "Won't he wait until the state legislature meets in February?"

"No, he says that although the enthusiasm of the townsfolk is high, the proposition is altogether too tenuous. He insists that where there's a will there's a way and if we really mean business, we'll produce the ten thousand on time."

"Could we raise the ten thousand privately, and hold the park until the town could legally take it over?"

"No, we don't think so. It's too much money for us to raise on so short a notice. Nothing much we can do except see what turns up."

\* \* \* \* \*

"Mr. McKendry of New Canaan to see you," my wife called from the porch. I dropped the hedge clippers and hurried in.

"Several of us in New Canaan are anxious to get hold of a piece of Roton Point," he said, after greetings. "Are you willing to combine and we

can divide the park to suit you people here in Rowayton?"

"Mother, mix Mr. McKendry something cold, and under no circumstances let him get out of your sight!" In fifteen minutes I had rustled up Doc, Bob, Jack, and Ed. McKendry, speaking for his group, agreed to take all the property east of the roadway at forty-five thousand dollars, and we agreed on all west of the roadway at thirty thousand.

Doc, Mel, Babe, and I worked over the map and framed the motion. Babe's wife prepared the ballots and slit the shoe boxes to receive them. She instructed four girls in the knack of rapidly checking off voters' lists.

When the meeting was over, the "Ayes" overwhelmed the "Noes" by eight to one. But the four thousand dollars — what about the four thousand dollars by September first? McKendry was ready with six thousand for his share. The people of Rowayton were told that if they wanted the park badly enough they would buy it privately and hold it until the state legislature authorized the town to make the purchase.

"Suppose the legislature does not authorize the purchase?"

"Then you own a park, and owe twenty-six thousand dollars."

And that's how we bought Roton Point Park.

"Did they subscribe?" you ask. Yes, indeed they did, eighty-five families subscribed fifty-six hundred dollars. And did the state legislature authorize the town to make the purchase? It did, indeed. Did the eighty-five families get their money back? They certainly did.

And they tell me that the money is available again, in case we ever have another good project to offer.

So that's why Joe and Lester and Harry have a new glint in their eyes. We know who runs our town. We have a park to prove it. We have a beach and a ball field and a picnic grove. Our park wasn't donated by a rich philanthropist. We bought it.

---

"The very nature of our democratic government calls for the cooperation of its entire citizenship if we are to progress as a nation. Our corruption in government is made possible only when people lack sufficient interest to take an active part in the everyday affairs of their community, state, and federal government."—C. R. Morrison in *Parks and Recreation*.





Courtesy Perry-Mansfield Camps

## The Place of Parks in a World at War

By V. K. BROWN  
Director of Recreation  
Chicago Park District

**I**N 1940 EVEN a superficial observer could see that the war was certain to bring new problems, whether or not America was directly involved in the fighting. Would, for instance, taxpayers be forced to decide what was luxury and content themselves with bare necessities? And if luxury must be dispensed with, is a park system and service a luxury or is it a necessity? The future of parks, thought the Chicago Park District, might well depend on the answer to that question.

We attempted to find out what the people themselves thought on the subject. Their two arguments, that parks and recreation centers are desirable places "to keep children off the streets," and that play facilities prevent delinquency, seemed, on inspection, to be negative in value, rather than positive. They did convince us, however, that our 35-year-old effort to convey our own ideas to the public had not proved very successful. We had been saying that our community centers developed neighborliness, helped to maintain com-

munity morale, enriched our common life together. We had talked about personality development, character building, physical development.

We had indicated that sportsmanship and fair play in games emphasizes standards and discipline. We had insisted that beauty has its values, and we had proclaimed that in a machine age we need means of relaxation and release from tension.

But, evidently, we had better change our methods. We had better listen first before talking further. And in so doing we found three lines of thought current in the public consciousness for which we attempted to provide practical applications.

The first such idea which we found to be prevalent was this: There is a sheer necessity for national unity. To this we could say:

"Yes, I think you are right. We must get together and stick together. But don't you think that we can get some training for that kind of team-work out of our experience in team-work in our sports? Don't you think, for example, that the discovery that our foreign-born citizens are just as much interested

**Parks are assuming great importance in a wartime program of recreation which has as one of its objectives relaxation and release from tension. We present a digest of an article by Mr. Brown which appeared in the February issue of *The American City*.**

as we are in community improvement does something to give us confidence in them, as fellow citizens?"

When we say that, after the citizen has brought the subject up himself, we are talking his language. He welcomes additional ideas when they second his own motion.

The next idea which we found to be so widespread as to be almost universal was this: There is a pioneering job stretching out before us after this war is over—the job of building the world all over again. We must prepare ourselves for that job. We must be physically fit. In response to that idea we could say:

"We can be thankful that we have some equipment to help us. We have our park swimming pools, our sports fields, our hiking trails, our boating lagoons, our areas for coasting or skating or camping or mountain climbing. I don't believe (and I have a hunch that you don't believe) that Americans are going to get physically fit by going through a dull and uninteresting set of formal exercises.

"Every sport that we have keeps alive by constantly becoming more difficult: billiards move into three-cushion; golf courses build new and more difficult hazards; manufacturers develop the livelier ball in baseball; the sportsmen themselves introduce the forward pass in football. Whist becomes bridge and then contract. That's the way sports evolve. And because there is something in us that is stimulated by challenge and difficulty, we go in for competition.

"Our parks certainly fit into the need you have been talking about. If America is going to tackle this tough situation with typical American spirit, it is lucky we have such practice grounds to get ourselves into shape for the grim job we face. Don't you think so?"

The third idea which we found to be widespread was a result of the public attention given to the "war of nerves" abroad. Fortunately would-be world conquerors told us what to expect.

We knew we had been through a lot, this generation. We knew that the first world war, our losses in the depression, the crumbling of our economic order, the upsetting of forms of government we had previously thought secure—all these experiences had brought us to the ragged edge.

We felt that we were on the verge of becoming jittery, if we were not, in fact, already so. We knew that our nerves were getting jumpy. We had become suspicious of everything and everybody—the so-called "politicians" in office, the "pressure groups" in the seat of government, "big business," "labor," the "subsidized press," "capitalism," "reformers"—everything!

Everybody knew the war of nerves was on. Everybody was worried about it. Everybody asked himself—how can we relax? How can we calm down, get a good night's sleep, and come back to face our problems calmly in the morning. We were able to say:

"That is, perhaps, our most fundamental problem. It is fortunate that some citizens are wise enough and keen enough to see it. But it is also fortunate that we have our park development in this country to help us find the answer. Getting out into the woods, under the trees, sitting on the shore of the lake or the bank of the river, picnicking with the family on the grass, smelling wood smoke, or hiking down the nature trails, listening to the birds and observing the flowers, going for a swim after a tough day in the office, getting out for a friendly game of softball on the park diamond. Yes, even our arts and appreciations, our crafts and hobbies, listening to concerts under the stars, responding to the beauty of a flower, a sunset, a painting, an oration, or a poem—all of them take our minds off our worries! They move us over to some other spot on the carpet, not to wear threadbare the place that gets the wear and tear of business life.

"All these things are just the restorative we need. They put us back into balance. They give us nervous tone and resilience. Certainly we can thank the wisdom of our fathers for having provided park institutions and a service which now meets this vital need. If, at this moment, we can mobilize all the right-thinking citizens like yourself, get them to spread the gospel of periodic relaxation, we need not content ourselves merely with worrying about the fact that we have worries, thereby adding still another worry to the list already threatening our undoing. Our park systems, either here in our home town, or scattered over the state, up in the North Woods, out in the mountains, or down at the seashore—they are a godsend. Made to order for just this crisis!"

In the last two years, these approaches have been our new publicity. Already, we believe, we have made more progress in developing a public understanding of the park system, its meanings and values, than we made in all the years when we were advancing only *our* ideas, but in such vague and foreign terms that they awoke no responsive thinking on the part of the general citizenship.

The first fundamental of park security is that parks talk the language of the common people to make themselves understand. When we relate ourselves to things the common people are thinking about, then we take our first steps toward insurance of our future. We think this process in connection with the park program is doing just that. We think we see evidences that it is doing so successfully.

# Home Play on The Air

**H**OME PLAY in wartime went on the air in March when the Women's War Forum broadcast of Station WGY in Schenectady dedicated a program to recreation in the home. Susan M. Lee, third vice-president and secretary of the Board of Directors of the National Recreation Association, was guest speaker on the broadcast. Following is the script written for the Women's War Forum:

**ANNOUNCER:** Women of America, your country is at war. Schenectady is at war. Schenectady, one of the biggest industrial centers in the United States, is fighting the battle behind the lines . . . the Battle of Production.

**KEBBE:** Paul McNutt has said: "The American people need to play and they need it now. It should not detract from, but *forward* the war job. Children need recreation normally and even more in times of tension and anxiety. Adults need recreation because it helps refresh and renew their minds and bodies for the day's work."

**SALLY:** Simple, inexpensive stay-at-home recreation is possible for every family in wartime, despite War Bond budgets and the necessity for all of us to avoid using our cars. Our guest this afternoon has some fascinating information to give you on Home Play in Wartime, which we know you'll be interested to hear about. So, now we turn our microphones over to our guests on the Women's War Forum.

**KEBBE:** You all know that our boys in the Army and Navy have regular planned periods of recreation, and I believe the Women's Army and Navy Reserves do also—don't they, Miss Wilson?

**WILSON:** I don't know about the Navy—but I know the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps does. And I'll be right in the thick of it in a few days.



Miss Susan M. Lee, third vice-president and secretary of the Board of Directors of the National Recreation Association, talks with Mrs. John Sarto about home play in wartime

**KEBBE:** Good. Miss Jeannette Wilson, ladies, whom you know is a WAAC, was a stenographer at American Locomotive up until a few days ago—and shortly she's leaving us to relieve a man for active duty. Why did you decide to join the WAACS, Miss Wilson?

**WILSON:** Well, I should say, fifty per cent of my reasons for joining was patriotism. You see I have a brother who's a Technical Sergeant somewhere in the Middle East—and my boy friend, who is a Lieutenant in the anti-tank division, will be going any minute—if he hasn't already gone. And the other fifty per cent is a mixture of wanting to do something closely connected with the war and a desire for a little adventure.

**KEBBE:** And I should say they were really excellent reasons, Miss Wilson. I hope you get your adventure.

**WILSON:** I've already got some. Just looking forward a few days to my day of leaving is pretty exciting in itself.

**KEBBE:** Do you know where you're going?

**WILSON:** All I know is what I read in the papers, Mr. Kebbe. *There* it says, the new group of WAACS will go to Daytona Beach, Florida.

**KEBBE:** Ah, lucky lady. Now, if you don't mind, Miss Wilson, we'll leave you for just a moment and meet our second guest who is Mrs. John Sarto, and she should have some idea of the



value of *civilian* recreation in wartime, because she's doing quite a job in Civilian Defense work. Will you explain a little about your work, Mrs. Sarto, please?

SARTO: My Civilian Defense work is Mass Feeding and I really welcome this chance to say something about my work, because I think it's one of the least known of all Civilian Defense activities that women can do.

KEBBE: And it's one of the most important, I might add.

SARTO: Well, I don't want to say so—but the OCD has first call on Mass Feeders—and no other civilian defense organizations can take precedence in times of emergency.

KEBBE: Just how do you work, Mrs. Sarto?

SARTO: In an emergency, such as a bombing, as soon as the all clear is sounded, we go out with our mobile kitchens and set them up in some previously designated area. Then we feed those who are in need. We all work together. There are no bosses, so to speak. Each woman is assigned a certain job to do. . . .

KEBBE: You mean, someone will make coffee and someone else sandwiches, and so on?

SARTO: That's it. But it's not as simple as it sounds. We must take a six weeks course and then practice what we've learned at some hospital. Our group has had to take over the kitchens at the Ellis Hospital and feed the patients from time to time.

KEBBE: You know all this Civilian Defense work is highly practical, isn't it, for war or peacetime. Incidentally, I know your husband is a war worker, and I wish you'd say a word for him, Mrs. Sarto.

SARTO: He is in charge of expediting in the Material Department at American Locomotive. And what with the large number of tanks they're building now, he spends most of his time at the plant.

KEBBE: Lots of overtime, eh? (SARTO: Yes) Well, I think you've *almost* proved the case for civilian recreation in wartime, Mrs. Sarto. Extra busy people need relief from nervous strain and tension.

LEE: The point is, Mr. Kebbe, how are they going to get it?

KEBBE: I'm going to let you answer that one,

Miss Lee, as soon as I introduce you. Ladies of the listening audience, Mrs. Sarto and Miss Wilson, may I present, Susan Lee, a Director of the National Recreation Association, who is going to discuss with us today, the extremely important subject of wartime recreation and Home Play in Wartime, Miss Lee.

LEE: How do you do. The aim of the National Recreation Association is that every child in America shall have a chance to play. That everybody in America young or old shall have an opportunity to find the best and most satisfying use of leisure time. These aims take on a new significance in wartime when the nation is looking to its citizens for the fighting spirit which we call morale.

WILSON: And you think that recreation plays an important part in building a nation's morale, Miss Lee?

LEE: Yes, definitely. We all need play—some fun and relaxation in our leisure time, both in peacetime and wartime. Not only children—but adults as well. You people in Schenectady, who are really doing such a magnificent job, must realize the value of recreation. But what are you going to do under wartime restrictions? With rubber being saved for war purposes, you can't drive your cars as you used to. Your budgets, too, are limited—with money going into taxes and War Bonds.

SARTO: Then the solution is to find ways and means of simple recreation at home, Miss Lee.

LEE: That's exactly the idea, Mrs. Sarto. And the National Recreation Association, in addition to its work for community programs, has always been concerned with home play and family recreation.

KEBBE: On the surface, it seems simple enough, Miss Lee.

LEE: It does, Mr. Kebbe. And yet, the work of our organization reaches out into every state of the Union. Our service is available to all who ask for it. And you'd be surprised at the numberless letters we receive requesting information from teachers, parents, and even children all over the country. Now that it is getting more difficult to go outside the home for much needed recreation, the family is thrown back more and more on its own resources—and often enough, people are at a loss as to what to do with their spare time.



WILSON: I can imagine many families would be really stumped for ideas without the use of the family car.

LEE: I am afraid they would, Miss Wilson. And yet these families need ideas right now if they—both adults and children—are to have the recreation they want. And actually, home play in wartime—which will help to satisfy the need we all feel for unity and solidarity with our family and our neighborhood—is not so hard to get as it seems at first. The average home is full of possibilities for games, and crafts, and dramatics if families will just give their imagination free rein—and give some thought to the space and materials at hand.

KEBBE: For instance, Miss Lee.

LEE: Well, a lot of toys aren't necessary for children. There are wonderful dolls clothes concealed in your scrap-cloth bag. Grocery cartons and boxes not only make practical wagons for young ones—but give them something constructive to do. If you live in the country, there are berries for stringing, birchbark for canoes and picture frames . . .

KEBBE: Say, I just remembered. When I was a child, I made a whole town from pasteboard boxes—painted them—cut out windows and so on.

SARTO: Was it fun, Mr. Kebbe?

KEBBE: Yes, it was. Really it was.

LEE: Of course, it was. And there are lots of other games. That old trunk in your attic is full of old-fashioned clothes that make delightful costumes for children's dramatics. Then of course, there are all kinds of card games.

WILSON: But even *bridge* can get tiring if you play it often enough.

LEE: That's true all right. But what about pounce, slap jack, I doubt it, or gin rummy?

WILSON: Or pinochle or hearts. There are two games I used to love.

LEE: Yes, and they're coming back into fashion. But sitting around of an evening, with your next door neighbor—you can have lots of fun playing those forgotten card games. They're noisy and lively—and they don't require so much concentration—and you won't want to concentrate anyway, after you've been doing it all day over some machine in a war plant.

SARTO: You're referring more to adults, now of course.

LEE: Well, yes, but not entirely. These old time games are good for all ages.

WILSON: Have you more suggestions, then?

LEE: Yes, though we have gasoline rationing, we can still walk places. There must be ample opportunities for picnicking in and around Schenectady. There must be many spots in the hills and along the Mohawk that you have not explored yet. But to get right back to the home—which I do want to emphasize—there are unlimited possibilities in your own back yard. Stretch a rope between two trees and you have a deck tennis court. A few discs of wood, a pole, and some chalk for marking your cement driveway, and you have a very workable shuffleboard. Or how about horseshoe pitching? Have you forgotten what fun that was—and all you need are a couple of stakes and a few horseshoes.

SARTO: Also, cooking out in your own backyard could be included.

LEE: Yes, picnics in your own backyard are just as much fun (and half the work) as picnics away from home. Perhaps you can make a fireplace from stone or brick over which you can broil hamburgers. . . .

WILSON: If you can get hamburgers.

LEE: True enough, Miss Wilson—and as time goes on the "ifs" will become more commonplace. The rationings and restrictions placed upon us at present are nothing to what they will be before the war is over. Tension and nervous strain will *increase* rather than *decrease*. We will be staying at home much more in the near future than we are now—all of us. That is why *now* is the time to prepare ourselves for home play in wartime. You working mothers (*and there will be more of you*) must feel that your children are happily occupied while you are away. Plan *now* for the time when you will be away from home a great part of the day.

SARTO: Do you think an older child can help in this situation?

LEE: Without doubt. Many children, especially the teen-age girls whose problems we hear so much about, enjoy playing with younger children and are proud of the feeling of responsi-

(Continued on page 360)

# "Nuts!" You Too Can Make These Things

By H. W. GRAEF  
Area Supervisor of Recreation  
Chicago Park District

THE INTEREST of many servicemen has been challenged by the number of craft articles which may be made from nuts. At their workshop in Chicago's Auditorium Center, the boys in uniform have made bracelets, belts, necklaces, lapel gadgets, salt and pepper shakers, buckles, earrings, rings, brooches, ash trays, flower pots, and buttons—all from nuts and nutshells.

In making these articles, nutshells of various kinds are cut longitudinally or in cross section. In some instances, cutting diagonally gives a very interesting pattern resembling butterflies, medallions, or other figures. Butternuts, black walnuts, hard-shelled pecans, Brazil nuts, hazelnuts, coconuts, and even date, red plum, and dark cherry pits have been found suitable for this work.

The nuts may be cut by hand, using a miter saw or coping saw, but the most satisfactory method is to use a band saw with a metal cutting blade. In order that the slices may be of any thickness and yet hold the nut firmly, a jig has been devised which is made from heavy, power hack saw blades, mounted in a block of wood. The illustration at the bottom of the page shows this device. The hack saw blades are arranged on the principle of a nutcracker and enable one to grip the nut firmly so that slices may be cut from both ends of the nut until the operator reaches the center section gripped by the jaws of the jig. This sawing to the required thickness is performed, of course, without removing the nut from the jig.

The second illustration shows a device made to hold the nut sections while filing them. The jig is made in the following manner: For the base, use a

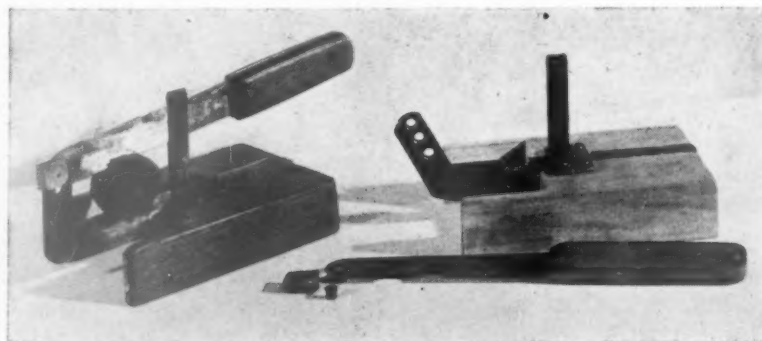
**This sign above a display cabinet in the craft shop at the Chicago Service Men's Center really "gets 'em going." One soldier asked, "Do you have to be 'cracked' to do this work?" The answer was, "No — just 'nutty'!"**

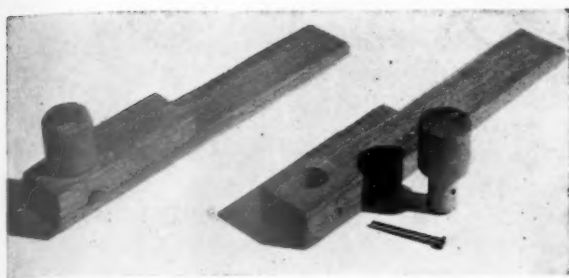
approximately 1" x 2" x 9", and drill a 1/2" hole through the flat surface about 1" from either end. The filing block is made of wood about 1" in diameter, and 2 1/2" long, and is turned down on one end to form a nipple 1/2" in diameter and 1" long. This nipple is fitted to the 1/2" hole previously drilled in the base. A

small hole may then be drilled through the base and nipple, and a nail inserted in this hole will keep the filing block from turning. Several very small holes are drilled in the top of the filing block to hold two small brads so that the heads of the brads project about 1/16" above the surface of the block. These brads may be moved to different holes to suit the nut section being filed. The jig is used by clamping the base to the table or bench so that the filing block is about 6" out from the edge of the table.

The nut section is placed on top of the filing block, and the pressure against the heads of the brads will hold the section firmly while the filing is accomplished. A mill file is used to remove all saw marks and to shape the edges so that they conform to a general pattern. A piece of sandpaper, cut to approximately 2 1/2" in length by 1/2" in width, is folded lengthwise to provide a good grit surface on both sides. One end of the piece of sandpaper is held firmly between the thumb and first finger, and the other end between the third and little fingers, with the tips of the first, second and third fingers resting on the little belt thus formed. Sanding in this way, with No. 7/0 granite and No. 8/0

pouncing paper gives a very smooth surface suitable for the final polishing. In sanding, almost all sharp edges are removed, and light reflections show that the





edges are rounded to a soft and pleasing contour.

After sanding, the dust is brushed from the nut section and the nut meats (which have been previously removed and saved in a glass jar) are pressed firmly into the shell so that the oil from the meat is absorbed by the shell. The shell sections may be left to "soak" for a few days with the nut meats pressed into them, which gives a somewhat deeper penetration of the oil. Ordinarily, however, after a few minutes the nut meats may be removed from the shell section by means of a sharp instrument. Old worn-out dentist tools are suitable for this purpose. The sections should then be brushed clean with an old toothbrush.

If, for any reason, holes are to be drilled in the shell, this should be done before polishing. A very satisfactory instrument for drilling such holes is a "bud" burr used in a "Handee" grinder. This burr has less tendency to draw to one side than a star-shaped or twist drill.

For polishing, two cotton cloth polishing wheels have been found satisfactory. One is impregnated with tripoli compound, used in buffing brass, and the other with jeweler's rouge, used in polishing silver and gold. If polishing wheels are not available, use a piece of heavy flannel mounted on a strip of wood. This may be held in the hand. Impregnated with the same compounds and rubbed briskly across the nut section, it will produce a very good polish. It has been found that this method of polishing gives better results than wax, shellac, or any other filler.

Coconut shells may be readily cut by using a hack saw, miter saw, or coping saw, and by machine, with a band saw or jig saw. In preparing the coconut shell for polishing, it is unnecessary to add oil from the nut meat. It may be highly polished, and retains considerable strength even when cut into very thin pieces. The outside fiber of the coconut shell is removed with a rasp or rough file. It is advisable to remove the inside layer of the shell with a jackknife or gouge before any extensive work is undertaken on the outside.

This is because the inside layer of the coconut shell is rather brittle and is likely to split off.

Sections of coconut shells may be sawed and filed into various shapes, and are wholly suitable for carving and engraving. The engraved portions are sometimes filled with a wax-like substance called "Monofil," which comes in various colors. In this way, the depressions in the piece are brought to the surface level so that when the article is polished, the engraving will show a color outline and yet the surface will be perfectly smooth.

Various methods of attachment are used on the different articles. Buttons, of course, are sewed on in the ordinary manner. Round elastic, silk cord, leather thongs, or sterling silver chain are used to attach the nut sections when making bracelets, belts or necklaces. The use of sterling silver chain in a necklace produces a really fine piece of costume jewelry. For the pins or dress ornaments, a plastic-back bar pin is attached to the nut section with "Duco" cement. If the surface to which the pin is to be attached is rather smooth or hollow, plastic wood may be used to fill in the depressions, thus giving the pin back a larger cementing surface.

To make salt and pepper shakers out of hazelnuts, pecans or Brazil nuts, an opening is formed in the base by drilling a series of very small holes in a circle about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " in diameter. This section is



then broken out of the base, and after smoothing the edges, a small cork is trimmed to form a nipple which will protrude up into the nut. The cork base, of course, should be proportionate and sufficiently wide to prevent top-heaviness. With a pick or drill, most of the partitions and all of the nut meat are removed from the nut. Holes are then drilled in the top of this section—small holes for the pepper shaker, and slightly larger holes for the salt shaker. If desired, the base may be colored



by using a material called "Plasta Rok." It is soluble in water, and dries with a hard, dull finish. Of course, in shakers of this type the nuts are not polished.

A base for the shaker may also be formed by cutting a cross section of the end of a nut, flattening the top surface, and setting a cork on this surface with "Duco" cement. In either case, the cork should extend only a short distance into the cavity of the nut, and no portion of the cork nipple should show when the piece is assembled.

Shakers made out of black walnuts and butter-nuts require that a very small slice be cut off the base end of the nut, and that the interior partitions be drilled so that they may be broken out and all nut meat and partitions removed. Smoothing the inside may be done with a large burr. The base should be made using the latter method described above. File, sand, and polish as directed.

In making flower pots, a section is sliced off the top of a coconut. After smoothing the nut, a clear lacquer is used to simulate a porcelain finish. To prevent moisture from spoiling the shell, the inside of the nut is coated with hot paraffin, applied by means of a stiff-bristled brush. A very satisfactory base is made from a piece of cork or balsa wood, hollowed somewhat to conform to the shape of the nut. A touch of color may be added to the base by using the "Plasta Rok."

These examples present some idea of the scope of nutcraft, but the use of nuts and nut shells in making useful and ornamental articles is limited only to the ingenuity of the craftsman.

In the book entitled "Low-Cost Crafts for Everyone," published by Greenberg, Publisher, New York City, the author, H. Atwood Reynolds, has devoted a chapter to describing Nut Crafts. Among these crafts are buttons, ornaments and accessories made from walnuts, butternuts, horse chestnuts, acorns, hickory nuts and hazelnuts.

Suggestions are also given for making bird feeding stations

Every Sunday and Wednesday since February the author of this article has shared his nutcraft hobby with the servicemen who come to the Auditorium Center in Chicago. The project has caught the attention of many of the boys who do not care to dance or participate in other activities.

and bird baths from coconuts, "A bird feed station to hang on a tree may be made from a coconut. Cut the coconut so that part of one side is left protruding to give the birds a perch to stand on as

they stretch their bills into the interior to draw forth the morsels of food that have been placed in it.

"Clean out the inside of the coconut and then sandpaper the inside surface. The outer surface may be left with its natural shaggy covering, or may be sanded to a smooth finish. It may be shellacked or left in its natural condition.

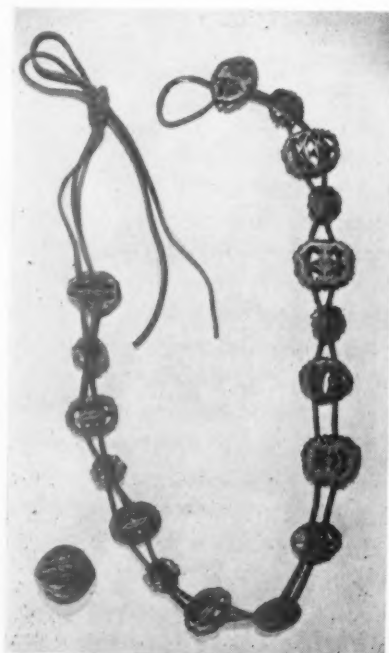
"To hang, bore a hole on either side of the coconut in such relation that a wire bail may be inserted with ends twisted to anchor it. Grain or suet may be put in the station for the birds, and then the house is ready for hanging.

"Fashioned similarly to the coconut bird feed station, the bath will make an attractive ornament for a tree, and yet will have utility as a pleasure spot for birds. Cut part of one side of your coconut in such manner that a lower lip is left to protrude, remembering that water must be retained in the nut and that the depth of the water will depend upon how far down you cut the coconut. Clean out the coconut meat that lines the inner wall. With wire bail fastened through two tiny holes bored on either side of the nut, hang the bath in a

tree and then pour sufficient water in it to entertain the birds.

"A trinket box made of coconut is constructed simply by cutting the top off in such a manner as to provide a lid. This may be large or small. In making the cut, slant it downward toward the inside so that it will fit without sliding off.

"Clean out the interior wall of the nut and sand well to a smooth finish. Shellac the inside and, if you wish, the outside as well. The latter should be coated only after some of the shaggy covering has been sanded off. If you wish to ornament the box, it will lend itself to paint after sanding. Or you may carve or burn designs in it."



# Why Archery?

Since bows and arrows are of wood, the only steel being on the arrow tip, it is probable, Mr. Berry points out, that there will be no curtailment of archery supplies during the war. This should result in a further impetus to the sport along with the desire throughout the entire country to keep physically fit.

**"A** PREPOSTEROUS IDEA!" Robin Hood would have snorted had he been told that his favorite weapon would some day be used by women to improve their posture and grace.

And this Sherwood Forest sport is increasing in popularity among women. Why? Permit two physical education instructors at Pasadena, California, Junior College, Miss Irma Graham and Miss Forrest Dutton, to answer this for you.

First of all, archery is good exercise. It builds good posture as no other sport will. It develops poise, control, coordination, concentration. The huskiest girl and her frail classmate benefit equally. Speaking of frailties, people in wheel chairs have competed in and won archery tournaments! It provides sound but not strenuous exercise for all ages.

These Pasadena teachers should know whereof they speak because they help teach 200 young women twice a week to flood targets with a rain of steel-tipped arrows. How well this instruction has been absorbed is brought out by the fact that the Pasadena Junior College archery team has ranked unusually high in the mouth-filling Women's Intercollegiate Telegraphic Archery Tournaments sponsored by the National Archery Association.

Pasadena has entered the tourney only two years, competing against teams from about a hundred colleges and universities throughout the United States. In 1940 the Pasadenans took eighth place, and last year climbed two notches to sixth. In addition, the school developed Marjorie Williamson, now a student at the University of California at Los Angeles, who, as a junior collegienne, tied for thirteenth place among women archers of the United States.

Archery is not necessarily a sport for women athletes. It is a sport for everybody, and, as has been mentioned, for the frail as well as the hearty.



By GRAHAM G. BERRY

Here is what Pasadena Junior College co-eds have to say when asked why they enrolled in archery classes. Most girls answered it was because they liked it or considered it the "most fascinating" of the twenty-four physical education courses offered at the junior college. Some had taken it in junior high or high school and wanted to continue the sport.

Tops in the most specific reason for liking it was that it corrects posture. Several girls were taking it to "cure" round shoulders. One girl wanted to strengthen her shoulders so she could play the violin better. The next most frequent reason given was that the time of archery classes fitted best into programs of classes. From this group, the teachers know, will develop some top archers who now are being exposed to the sport for the first time.

Four answers tied for the next place: 1. Feminine curiosity about archery. 2. It is an outdoor sport. 3. It is one of many sports girls want to know something about. 4. Physical disabilities preclude participating in more strenuous exercise.

(Continued on page 362)

# Witches and "Punkin" Heads . . . .

**A**UTUMN—and black cats, witches on broomsticks, ghosts, and eerie spirits will be among us again. Now's the time to begin planning for that Halloween Party you've been thinking of having—only this year the festivities will have an up-to-the-minute keynote with emphasis on simple, easy-to-arrange decorations and refreshments.

You don't have to buy scarce materials to make "spooky" invitations. Just take old brown wrapping paper or some discarded paper bags and cut out invitations in the shape of autumn leaves. With orange and black crayon write this mysterious message: "BwAre!!—U R 2 AperE et ThUh ShaK ov mR. aNd MrS. jONes, oCToBER 31 et 6 O'cloK. KuM prEPaRed 4 eNYthiNg!!"

On the other side of the leaf you can ease your friends' minds by writing the verse shown in the inset. At the bottom of the poem leave room to write the name and address of the host and hostess.

Because this is a wartime Halloween Party, remember all decorations must be made as easily and inexpensively as possible. Gather autumn leaves of all hues from your garden and scatter them abundantly around the rooms.

Cover a standing lamp with a sheet, for a very realistic ghost, using sticks underneath for arms. The light shining through the head, (make features with charcoal) gives an unearthly effect. Cover all light bulbs with masks, the more horrible, the better. If you live in the country and cornstalks are available, make ghosts, witches and scarecrows of these, tying masks to broomsticks for the heads. Spider webs of cord strung across the windows will complete the eerie details.

Bright red apples can be suspended from lengths of clothes line strung across the room in several places. And it always helps to have a crackling fire in the fireplace if possible.

**Spider Web Treasure Hunt.** Here's a hilarious way of getting the party started. Attach inexpensive souvenirs—maybe vegetables or fruits from your victory garden—to the ends of balls of cord (one for each guest) and hide them in various

If modern ghosts you've never seen,  
Come to our house on Halloween—  
Cats screeching, skeletons creaking,  
Ghosts roaming, witches groaning—  
Be prepared; your secret's bared,  
Won't you come and join the fun?

places. Take each ball of cord separately, and weave it in and out of the furniture, across rooms, etc. The cords should all cross and recross each other, making a real "spider web." Arrange them so that the loose ends are near the entrance

of the party room. Your guests will have trouble, but fun, unraveling the web.

**Are You Superstitious?** Provide the guests with plenty of paper and pencils so that they can write down all the Halloween bad omens they can think of. The one who prepares the longest list in a given time wins and must read his list aloud. Others may be asked to read superstitions not read by the winner. Here are a few bad omens your guests might include:

1. Don't walk under a ladder. Extreme bad luck is the penalty.
2. If you throw over the salt shaker, throw salt over your shoulder to escape bad luck.
3. If you break a mirror, it signifies seven years of bad luck.
4. If you sing before breakfast, you will cry before supper.
5. It is bad luck to rock an empty chair.
6. If you put on any garment wrong side out, it is bad luck to change.
7. If you tell a dream before breakfast, it will come true.
8. Every bride should wear something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue.
9. Don't let a black cat cross your path. You will have bad luck.
10. It is bad luck to raise an umbrella in the house.

**Where's My Spirit?** With everyone bumping into everyone else in this game, guests will get to know each other quickly—and violently! As everybody knows, the dead cannot rest until their mortal bodies are joined with their immortal spirits. In this game the mortals—all of them famous men—seek their spirits in the Valley of the Dead.

Half the group are Mortals, half Spirits. The



Spirits, who cover themselves with sheets, go to one end of the room, the Mortals to the other.

Each of the Mortals is given a name of a departed spirit — General Washington, John Paul Jones, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson, General Grant. The Spirits are given corresponding names. Then the Mortals go in search of their Spirits. When they meet or bump into a Spirit they shake hands quietly with him, give their name and ask if he is their Spirit. If they meet the wrong one he groans loudly. If they meet their own Spirit, he says, "Aye, Mortal." The Spirit then removes his shroud and both go their way in peace.

**Apple Contest.** Fresh fruit isn't rationed and you should be able to get all the apples you'll need for this typical Halloween game. Divide the guests into groups of four each. Give No. 1 in each group an apple and a paring knife. No. 1 is to peel the apple and pass it on to No. 2. No. 2 must quarter it, No. 3 core it and drop it into a bowl of water. No. 4 must take it out of the water and eat it. The first quartet finished wins.

**Musical Race.** Seat players in two rows about ten feet apart. At both ends of each row place a hollowed pumpkin or a basket draped in orange and black crepe paper. An apple is placed in the basket at one end of each line.

Number the players of each team and give each the name of a well-known song with a patriotic theme. One player of each team will thus have the same song.

A pianist starts playing a song — or someone may hum the tune loudly — and each of the two players assigned that song runs, as soon as he recognizes it, to the pumpkin or basket at the end of the line in which the apple has been placed, grabs it, runs to the pumpkin or basket at the opposite end of the line, places the apple in it, and returns to his seat. The one seated first scores one point for his team. The team first scoring eleven points wins.

A few song titles which may be used are:

The Star-Spangled Banner  
Yankee Doodle

Anchors Aweigh  
Caissons Song  
When Johnny Comes Marching Home  
America, the Beautiful  
Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean  
The Marines' Hymn  
Army Air Corps  
Battle Hymn of the Republic

**Pumpkin Victory Exchange.** Seven orange-colored cardboard pumpkins—you can cut them out yourself—are needed for each guest. One letter of V-I-C-T-O-R-Y should be printed on each pumpkin. Shuffle them all together and deal the pumpkins into as many piles of seven as there are guests. Place each pile of seven in a separate envelope and place the envelopes in a hollowed-out pumpkin. Let each guest take one envelope. The object of the game is to collect seven pumpkins that will spell the word "victory." To do this, each person must exchange undesirable letters for others. Only one letter may be traded at a time, and if a person is asked for a letter he doesn't have, he may not be asked for another. The first person to get the complete word cries "Victory!"

**Black Cat and Bat.** Choose a Bat and a Black Cat from among your guests. The other players join hands to form a circle with the Bat in the center and the Cat on the outside. The Cat chases the Bat in and out of the circle, the members of the circle favoring the latter and hindering the former by raising or lowering their arms. When the Bat is finally caught, two other players become Bat and Cat.

**Military Ghost.** Here's a new twist to an old game. Players are seated in an informal circle.

The first player calls the first letter of a word of more than three letters which he has in mind. The second player thinks of a word beginning with that letter and adds the second letter. The third player adds the third letter, and so on. Each player must be very careful that the letter he adds does not complete a word. If he does, he becomes a half-ghost and anyone who speaks to him also becomes a half-ghost.

The next player then starts another word. Any



Print by Gedge Harmon

player whose mistakes make him a half-ghost twice becomes a ghost. Anyone who speaks to a ghost becomes a ghost. Ghosts are out of the game, but remain in the circle and try to draw the players into conversation with them.

A player must always have in mind a word of more than three letters when he calls a letter. Frequently a player, in a tight spot and unable to think of a word from the letter passed on to him, will attempt to bluff and call a letter anyway. Any player suspecting that this is the case may challenge another player to state the word he has in mind. If he is unable to do so, he becomes a half-ghost; if he does name a legitimate word, the challenger becomes a half-ghost.

The trick here is that all words used in the game must be of a military nature. Here are some suggestions of words that may be used: soldier, sailor, marine, MacArthur, Pershing, Lafayette, Verdun, bomb, submarine, troop, regiment, infantry, cavalry, Attu, battalion, rifle, grenade, tank, Montgomery, Doolittle.

**"Punkin" Head Race.** A small pumpkin is placed on a table at one end of the room. The pumpkin is lifted from the table and carried by two players who place their foreheads against it, and together lift it in that way from the table. Hands may not be used. If the pumpkin drops to the floor and the couple can not retrieve it, they may receive help, but are fined 50 points. Time is kept and the couple accomplishing the feat in the shortest length of time wins. Each couple completing the race receives 500 points. But remember that a deduction of 50 points is made for each time they receive help. If the party is large enough, provide two pumpkins and make this a relay race. The side finishing first wins.

**"Tell Me My Fortune."** The future always reveals itself to the credulous on Halloween. The hostess, dressed as a witch or an old gypsy can concoct some really amusing fortunes with charmed pumpkin seeds which should be placed in an empty pumpkin. Each guest seeking his fortune will come to the witch and will be told to draw one of the magic seeds from the pumpkin. The seeds, which are dried in advance of the party, have printed on each in India ink one of the following symbols:

\$—wealth

¢—poverty

M.D.—will marry a doctor

Wings—will go in the air  
corps or marry an aviator

**"If a Goblin came a-hobblin'  
What would you do?  
I'd treat him like a personage —  
And run!—wouldn't you?"**

Anchor—will go in the Navy or marry a sailor

Love Knot—a love affair

2—will marry twice

Ring—happy marriage

Pen—literary success

Button—bachelor

Thimble—old maid

Spade—will marry a farmer

**Bobbing for Apples.** No Halloween party is complete without bobbing for apples. Instead of placing the apples in tubs of water where the splashing might damage polished floors or ruin clothing, try suspending the apples on strings from a line strung across the room. Each person stands before an apple with his hands behind his back and tries to eat the fruit. The apples will swing back and forth as they are touched thus adding to the difficulty of biting them. The person who finishes his apple first wins a prize of a jelly or candy apple.

By this time, your guests will be ready and willing to follow the "old witch" hostess into the dining room where refreshments galore greet the eye. The table can be covered with orange and black crepe paper. Paper plates of the same colors may be dressed up with cut-outs of witches, cats, and pumpkins pasted on them. Napkins, cut from the same crepe paper, will be in the shape of leaves with the names of each guest written in orange or black crayon. Real leaves from the garden should be scattered here and there on the table.

Crowning point of the refreshment table will be the centerpiece—a huge pumpkin, hollowed out, lined with waxed paper, and set on a mat of autumn leaves. Fill the pumpkin with autumn fruits and nuts.

But now for the refreshments—and what a tempting picture they present! First come the good old standbys of apple cider and golden-brown doughnuts. They're inviting, easy to prepare, and won't take precious ration points.

Then there are Black Cat Sandwiches which are slices of white bread cut in small rounds and covered with cream cheese. This is topped with rounds of brown bread in which faces have been cut, so that the white cheese shows through.

For a novel Orange Face Salad, scoop the insides out of oranges, leaving just the skin, and fill with salad. Stick in cloves for eyes, nose, and mouth. Fasten a slice of marsh-

(Continued on page 356)

# What They Say About Recreation

"MAKE UP YOUR MIND once and for all that you can be happy and that you are going to be happy. . . . Happiness is not a matter of wealth or station. It is a matter of temperament and will. . . . Take satisfaction in the goodness and kindness that you see in people about you. Notice the beauties of nature. Enjoy the flowers. Listen to the birds. Look up at the sky and stars."—Joy Elmer Morgan.

"Now that our country is at war, the importance of pure music and all the fine arts is much greater than ever."—Dr. William Lyon Phelps in *The Etude Music Magazine*.

"The 'life more abundant' can never be exclusively the life of either artist, scientist or philosopher. . . . It must include alike the art of beautiful living, added to the science of true living, both culminating in the philosophy of the good life."—From *The Heart through Art*.

"Too many people in America are lonesome. Everyone who is in his right mind wants to belong with other people, and if he doesn't belong anywhere, he is unhappy."—David Cushman Coyle in *America*.

"Even now, in the midst of war, we have not visualized our children as our richest mine of strength and security. Children everywhere will have lost most; they will need new hope and new understanding."—Dr. George D. Stoddard.

"Recreation meets a great spiritual need in the individual, and in meeting it helps to mould and build his tastes and interests."—George S. Counts.

"There is no better way to train for the larger responsibilities of citizenship than through participation in cooperative, wholesome, worthwhile recreational activities. Those who participate develop greater appreciations of beauty standards and skills."—James N. Rule.

"There is particularly urgent need for expanding recreational, school and day care facilities for the little children, but also necessary are additional provisions for children after school closing hours and during the long summer vacation."—Bess Goodykoontz.

"To make the outdoor recreational resources of America effectively available to the youth of America is an effort we owe our young people."—*The American Youth Commission in Youth and the Future*.

"Happiness and unhappiness have been little studied by science, yet happiness is one of our most cherished goals. As economic institutions are the clue to our standard of living, so, perhaps, the institution of the family is nearest that elusive thing called happiness."—From *Review of Findings*, President's Research Committee on Social Trends.

"A man should hear a little music, read a little poetry, and see a fine picture every day of his life, in order that worldly cares may not obliterate the sense of the beautiful which God has implanted in the human soul."—Goethe.

"Relaxation is one of the absolute necessities of modern life if we are to have mental and spiritual release and satisfaction."—Edith M. Gates in *The Womans Press*.

"The very essence of democracy is the search for new freedoms by thorough-going individualists who realize there is sufficient advantage in living together to be willing to impose on themselves certain disciplines and responsibilities."—Henry A. Wallace in *The Price of Freedom*.

"Children bear the promise of a better world. . . . Through play they learn what freedom means."—From *Defense of Children Series* No. 8. Children's Bureau.

"You can interrupt the improvement of a road and ten years later go on with it about where you left off, but if you interrupt decent care for children and ten years later begin again to feel responsible for them, you can by no means begin where you left off. You find them irreparably grown up, and grown up wrong—enemies and liabilities of their communities rather than friends and assets."—Dorothy Canfield Fisher.

"Let us get over the shame of being caught idling, working in our gardens, reading a good book, listening to or producing fine music, or going fishing."—R. Bruce Tom.





*AAF Technical Training Command Photo*

Servicemen gallantly welcoming Miami Beach junior hostesses to the Pier. In a few short months the list of 400 girl volunteers ballooned to 4,000

At ease on  
library and

## So This Is Tropical Languor!

By KATHRYN C. HARWOOD

**H**OW THE NORMAL LIFE of a small resort city of 30,000 people, drowsing under a tropical Florida sun, was decisively changed overnight, and how its citizens met this crisis is the wartime saga of Miami Beach.

How an Association set about providing recreation for a few sailors from across Biscayne Bay, and found itself host to a million servicemen in less than a year, is part of the staggering transformation which faced this community.

How 300 volunteers increased their ranks to 3,000 in a few short months, and how a list of 400 junior hostesses ballooned to 4,000 is a part of this amazing story of wartime civilian adjustment.

Just before the influx of the Army on the Beach, a local group had formed itself into the Recreation Pier Association. Its plans were comparatively modest. The members would have gasped had they known they were on the brink of operating Florida's largest servicemen's center and one of the largest in the United States. How could they know that the Association would open seven ad-

ditional centers, five of them simultaneously within a few months.

In the spring of 1942, Miami Beach was beginning to shutter its pink and white stucco houses, furl its gaily-striped awnings, and board up its luxury shops, hotels, and clubs for the summer. The wealthy winter crowd was leaving the jewel-box city and the sleepy summer was setting in. Without warning, citizens awoke one morning to the sound of tramping feet. Tens of thousands of Air Force trainees were streaming into town. The world's largest Technical Training Command flooded the streets and overflowed every available space. Clubs became mess halls. Hotels were turned into barracks. PXs and commissaries squeezed into store rooms. Golf courses were transformed into drill fields. Traffic halted while endless parades of singing soldiers went by. Shop windows were filled with military equipment, and the bugler was "getting 'em up" at about the hour when remaining resorters were just thinking of going to bed. In the matter of servicemen, Miami Beach had hit the jack-pot.



At ease on leave relax in their own Pier  
libramin' and 'ritin' are the order of the day



On deck! — These sunning seamen have come from  
Miami to spend the day at the servicemen's Pier

Without warning, the citizens of Miami Beach awoke one morning to the sound of tramping feet. The world's largest Technical Training Command had taken over the little jewel-box city. Here is the amazing story of how the local citizens met this wartime crisis.

Had the Pier Association which was serving these thousands not been founded along sound lines, it could never have weathered the strain. If the leaders had not been women of foresight and strong purpose, the Association would have collapsed of its own weight. Had this enormous community project not been based on the highest conception of recreation, it would never have gained the approval and support of Army, Navy, Defense Council, and its own City Fathers.

Ninety per cent of its Women's Board was still intact a year later. Those who withdrew did so from necessity — because of illness, moving, or other personal pressure. This Women's Board has directed and performed the actual work, backed by a Men's Board which has sat in an advisory capacity.

The Association rapidly expanded with the rising tide of troops. Women who had never thought

much about it before were suddenly conscious of a fierce civic pride in handling this job of providing healthy lounging places for the groups of uniformed men crowding the sidewalks. So keen became this challenge that not until six months of gruelling labor had elapsed did they reluctantly hand over even a little of their backbreaking responsibility to a small professional staff. When the massive proportions of the work necessitated the help of a thousand volunteers a month, they realized that the Association needed the stability which only professionalism provides.

Although the leaders and the vast bulk of workers are volunteer, they are not necessarily unskilled. Women are chosen for whatever experience or training they may have had; and those with aptitudes along certain lines often develop particular techniques. Whether their motive be patriotic, intellectual, civic, or purely emotional, they all feel an urge which keeps them steadfast to a goal and minimizes the inevitable clash of personalities.

Some are serving their own sons by proxy; still others are interested in the men objectively, seeing a possibility of contributing to the mold of the nation's future. Because both the Colonel's Lady and Judy O'Grady are volunteers, there is the inevitable minority working because it is "the thing to do." Probably the greatest driving force

of all is pride of town. This is Miami Beach's job and these are Miami Beach men and women doing it, helped by Greater Miamians who comprise a third of the volunteers.

### The Pier Opens

April 15, 1942, had been set as opening day for the Pier, first and largest of the Association's centers. This city-owned property had been loaned for the duration. Consisting of two barn-like buildings joined by an open deck, the structure projected almost a thousand feet into the Atlantic from the southern tip of the Beach. It was cluttered with defunct city lampposts and assorted mementoes of Minsky's Burlesque which flourished there in former years. Its roof leaked and its plaster had seen better days.

Those original three hundred pairs of volunteer hands had less than a month's time in which to raise funds and collect furnishings for this ugly, cement behemoth which had nothing but its size and its superb location to recommend it. Those willing hands wore callouses and blisters in the process. The monster's appetite seemed insatiable. Truck loads of bookcases, desks, checkerboards, clocks and balogna-slicers were dumped at the entrance and swallowed. Tag Day and a benefit race at Tropical Park were the opening money-raising efforts. Newspapers, in banner headlines, called for volunteers. Merchants cut prices and civic clubs loaned pool tables and pianos. Secondhand dealers probed dusty corners for treasures. Nothing that wasn't nailed down was safe from questing workers!

Transporting this equipment, bought or wheeled, was a feat of ingenuity blithely required of a committee which, one year later, was to report: "We are, 'Believe it or not, Mr. Ripley,' one of the busiest transfer companies, operating without a license and with no overhead."

From the outset the pattern of resort life complicated this civic project. In wintertime, resources of money and manpower overflow the community. But summer tells a different tale. Within days the population boils down to less than half. Army and Navy, however, were no respecters of "the season." Responsibility fell heaviest on the community's year-round population. Of average means, pursuing normal, unspectacular lives, these were the women who rolled up their sleeves. They scrubbed, sewed, pinned, painted, hammered and nailed. They were hot, they were tired, but they were determined. A year later they

had the startling experience of reading about themselves in an Associated Press story as "the diamond-studded women who run the Pier!"

### "Diamond-Studded" Help

Luckily, through the bustling months that followed the Pier's opening, there were plenty of the "diamond-studded" winter crowd to help as well. The Association kept pace with sweeping Army expansion. One by one seven branches were opened, dotted northward from the Pier eight miles, ending in the swank Surf Club at Ninety-first Street and the ocean. They vary in type from a small Adirondack-style lodge with wood-paneled walls, rustic balcony and moose head over the doorway, to a converted cocktail bar, mirrored and spacious. They range from the Pier which has accommodated 7,000 servicemen in one evening, to a four-room cottage at the edge of Biscayne Bay with pink hibiscus at the window ledge.

The same policies govern the Pier and its branches; the same philosophy applies to all. This is, to put it simply, refreshment of body, mind and spirit. The Association is nonsectarian, its sole object being to provide wholesome leisure to servicemen in all branches of the armed forces stationed in this area.

As nearly as possible, a civilian atmosphere is the aim of Pier and branches, offering the uniformed man a temporary release from military regimentation. Officers are excluded except as guests on special occasions so that men may not eternally be snapping to attention. Although a college register is kept for their convenience, men are not required to register for admittance. Volunteers, on the other hand, from president down, sign in and out, thus keeping track of hours and facilitating the receiving of messages. Civilian visitors are admitted only from ten to noon daily, and to the Pier on Wednesday nights (passes secured from Army intelligence) to watch the weekly soldier broadcast, CONTACT, over WKAT. An MP on duty at an inside gate is the eye of the needle through which every Pier visitor is threaded.

At the end of the first six months of operation, with the only paid personnel laborers and a city-employed maintenance man, the Miami Junior League made a sizeable contribution which, added to another donation, made it possible to secure a professional director. Later a secretary and two canteen professionals were added to the staff. This staff is being enlarged as rapidly as suitable people can be found.



On Lincoln Road, the heart of the Beach, the Association has opened a volunteer placement office for which the space was donated. Here potential workers pop in and out to offer their services and to ask questions. Each volunteer fills out an application card, stating the amount of time she (or sometimes he) can give, at which Pier Center she chooses to serve, and the type of work she prefers. This card is then referred to the appropriate chairman who assigns her to a designated post. The volunteer has now become a Pier apprentice and is eligible to wear an identifying badge. When she has served six supervised periods she has a second interview with the volunteer placement committee and is enrolled as a regular Pier worker. Hours of apprenticeship count toward earning the pin which she is entitled to wear when she has served a minimum of seventy-five hours.

#### Badges and Pelicans

Badges of Pier Association workers are banner-shaped pins of white enamel on silver. Across the top is a red, white and blue bar, and in the center the official emblem—a pelican on a square field of red with the

initials S P (Servicemen's Pier) in blue. Inspiration for the emblem came from the long, waving lines of pelicans sailing over the Pier, sometimes coasting down to splash landings at the Pier's end, there to sit on the waves, solemnly sighting down their long bills for fish. This emblem appears on stationery, banners, stickers for automobile doors—in fact, on any object the women can find an excuse to mark with a rubber stamp.

Dade County, aware that the Association would entertain over a million men its first year and probably twice that many its second, assumed its share of community responsibility by including the project as a War Chest agency. Through facilities of the Federal Security and Federal Works Agencies, plus city participation, funds were granted for remodeling and renovating the Pier. This is in line with present government policy of remodeling, when possible, existing structures rather than of building new at greater expense and consequent waste of vital materials. This face-lifting job was completed in July. To the men it meant brighter,

more attractive surroundings, added comfort, additional facilities for enjoyment. To the volunteers it meant less back-

**"Anything goes"—even the kibitzer—in the game room where servicemen concentrate on the finer points of bridge, checkers, chess, gin rummy, or parchesi**



breaking labor, no dodging of leaks in wet weather, pleasant rooms full of light and air in place of bleak walls and dark cubbyholes. The background, as well as the volunteers, now dispenses charm and gaiety.

Long skilled at entertaining people away from home, the Pier women did not make the mistake of setting up an arbitrary program of recreation. It developed from the requests of servicemen themselves until it grew into a many-branched plan of activities. No one thought up something that was "good" for the men and attempted to foist it on them. By placing a suggestion box where they could anonymously drop in their written likes and dislikes, they were encouraged to propose their own entertainment. Oddly enough, the resulting program was of a more serious nature than the women expected. Aside from wadded paper pellets which rattled in the box like popcorn and which, unrolled, read: "Girls, more girls," there were requests for symphonic victrola records, drawing materials, Spanish conversation, current events groups, stories of Seminoles, alligators and early boom days, and one forlorn wish for some "good Greek home cooking."

Perplexed boys, corrugating their brows over square root problems, started mathematics classes. These are taught by high school teachers and are in session nightly in the library, often with the SRO sign out. Spanish conversation became a glamor class with University of Miami girls from Spanish-speaking countries as school-marms. The University's School of Music schedules visiting and local musicians for concerts at the Pier or one of the branches each Sunday afternoon.

### More Fun

"I'd like to learn chess" turned up so often in the suggestion box that two experts were given sway in a small room at the Pier. Here Harvard and Yale move their pawns against Brooklyn and Texas. Bridge, parchesi and gin rummy have their devotees in all the centers. Jig-saw puzzles not finished one night are left on the tables to be worked on the next. The "plick-plock" of table tennis seems never to cease, while Cow Cow Boogie on innumerable pianos attracts iron-lunged soldiers like bees around a honey pot. It takes an armor-plated upright to withstand the boogie-woogie onslaughts, but some of the centers have been loaned concert grands which magnetically draw musicians from the crowds of soldiers and

sailors. Concert artists formerly of the Metropolitan have sat for hours at these ivories. Volunteers pause quietly to listen. Servicemen look up from their letter writing, or put down their reading to stare into space, dreaming.

For the floor shows which night clubs take turns in sending to the Pier, servicemen stamp, whistle and cheer; but they love to get up their own shows too, clowning their own military tribulations. Dolled up as chorus girls, they clump across the stage in the gargantuan strides of their G. I. shoes.

Pier and branches have discovered that art is a spectator sport as well as a creative outlet. Paper and crayons are furnished men who sit all evening sketching—oblivious to everything—admired by a charmed circle of kibitzing jeeps. Occasionally a soldier, sailor, coastguardsman, merchant seaman, or even hostess occupies the model's stool and thereafter gazes from the walls in twenty different versions. Quick-sketch artists draw likenesses of servicemen, presenting them with the results which they invariably send back to their homes or their girl friends. Some airplane modeling is done, and sculpture is a new art departure. An exhibition of servicemen's art is in the offing. With the completion of the Pier's renovation more and more accent will be placed on arts and crafts.

Dancing is jam on the serviceman's bread. Give him the jam and he'll even do without the bread. Girls come from miles around for the Pier's nightly dances. On moonlight nights you can hardly wriggle your way through dancing couples on the wide, open deck. Biweekly dances in other sections of the Beach are planned too.

Junior hostesses, girls eighteen or over, add verve and gaiety to all activities. In bright dresses, gardenias tucked in their pompadours, they chatter together as clusters of them arrive during the early evening hours. Many fill regular jobs all day but they dance just the same, coming back night after night. Hopelessly outnumbered by servicemen, their dancing evening, which ends with the 11:00 P. M. closing hour, is nothing short of an athletic workout. The men elect a "Miss Keep 'Em Flying" once a month, and the three girls with the month's highest attendance record receive engraved silver anklets.

### For Cooling Off

The unique joy of the Pier is its wide sloping beach, perfect for bathing. Shower, dressing rooms,



and lock-box facilities are free to any serviceman. He may bring his own swim trunks or he may rent a pair from the Swimming Department for ten cents. A towel is five cents. About ten thousand swimmers used this service the first year; these figures are now swelling enormously. Shaving kit, shoe-shine outfit and sewing basket are other conveniences. Pressing rooms are certainly an important part of the program. Iron and boards are scarcely allowed to cool off so much are they in demand — especially right before pay day.

Sailors are the Pier's most frequent daytime visitors, especially men from the sub-chaser school in Miami. Several hundred strong they march across the causeway, swarming into the Pier with yelps of joy and a mascot dog bounding at their heels.

Men are already congregated at the gate waiting to get in when the Pier opens Sundays at 9:00 A. M. Incidentally, there is one volunteer who has never missed her nine o'clock Sunday morning post since the Pier opened over a year ago! Men amuse themselves the whole day, often trying their luck at fishing. As many as 200 have tossed lines from the Pier's end at one time, yanking from the depths all shapes and sizes of fish from shark to snapper, from octopus to crawfish. A nickel buys bait, and tackle is provided with the cooperation of the Army and Navy Fishing Committee. One rapturous fisherman brought his catch proudly to the canteen. Could they cook it for him? Out came the grease and skillet!

For these day-long visitors the Association puts on a free Sunday afternoon buffet, simple but adequate. Snacks for both volunteers and men may be purchased from the canteen. Miami Beach has few transient servicemen, and most men are within walking distance of their mess, so canteens cater to appetite and not hunger. Cool drinks made from Florida limes, and the inevitable colas are best sellers.

Anything with a tropical flavor—be it fish, fruit or flower—is a constant source of wonder to servicemen who come to Miami Beach from the farthest corners of the country. The decorating committee uses varieties of native specimens in color combinations right out of Mexico. Scarlet Carissa plums, brilliant mangoes, russet sausages, yellow fruit and purple bloom of the banana plant

---

**Boys from England, Canada, Scotland, New Zealand, Czechoslovakia, France, China, Russia, Iceland, and Guadalcanal have had a taste of home in America. Language is a barrier quickly leapt when there is music and friendliness.**

---

fill split wood baskets, and clusters of misty green sea grapes spill over the sides. Variety is limitless. The exotic color and abandon of a Carmen Miranda headdress effect is followed by the breath-taking delicacy of a

spray of pale pink franji-pani. Men soak up the atmosphere, stop to admire, then question. Scarcely a garden is safe from the committee, which by now has all the unusual blossoms of Dade County spotted and ticketed. When the coconut in its native sheath captured the fancy of the men as the ideal memento to mail back home, the women found themselves in the coconut business. In a year's time 3,000 coconuts were snatched from neighbor's yards, and went traveling from the various Pier centers.

Not all entertaining of servicemen is done at the Pier and branches. A home hospitality committee secures invitations for dinners, dances, and garden parties in private homes. As many as 898 men have been placed in one month, entailing colossal preparation because the committee is careful to bring congenial hosts and guests together. The committee receives an avalanche of thank-you letters. Some of these letters come from RAF fliers who have shared the Pier Association's hospitality or Jugo-Slavians who write back to say: "We will tell of you often in our country." Boys from all over the world have enjoyed Miami Beach hospitality. Boys from England, Canada, Scotland, New Zealand, Czechoslovakia, France, China, Russia, Iceland, and Guadalcanal have had a taste of home in America. Language is a barrier quickly leapt when there is music and friendliness.

#### Purpose Behind Activity

Visitors to the Pier or its branches are at first struck by the noise and the apparently aimless churning of the crowds. Yet there is no real confusion. There is purpose behind every activity; there is plan in every form of diversion. The majority of visiting servicemen are raw recruits, although to many uniformed visitors the thunder of guns and the explosions of torpedoed ships are recent experiences. According to the needs and normal tastes of all types of men, the Association tries to provide a background that best furnishes the release from strain each man craves. For some men, dancing, singing, girls, and merriment provide

(Continued on page 359)



# A Simple Question . . . and a Simple Answer

By HOMER C. WADSWORTH

Superintendent of Recreation  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**T**HE QUESTION before us concerns the manner in which the community facilities and services within housing projects should be administered. To my mind this is a simple

question, and deserves a simple answer. It is both the duty and the obligation of the municipality to make adequate provision for the health, welfare and recreational needs of the tenants of housing projects, and upon the same basis as such services are extended to its other citizens. Further, it is my judgment that the municipality should assume the responsibility for managing and operating the community facilities within housing developments, should encourage their use by residents and non-residents alike, and should assume whatever financial burden cannot be met by the Housing Authority itself.

Since September 1942 we have been engaged in Pittsburgh in an interesting program mutually agreed upon by the Pittsburgh Housing Authority and the Bureau of Recreation of the City of Pittsburgh—an arrangement which may throw some light on the practical problems involved in municipal operation of community facilities within housing projects. A survey of the recreational needs of the Hazelwood District of the city, of which the Glen-Hazel Heights War Housing Project, serving 999 families, is an important part, was made by a representative committee of the Federation of Social Agencies.

Upon the completion of this study the city of Pittsburgh agreed to assume responsibility for the management of the community facilities within the housing site, subject to general agreement on two conditions: (1) that the Pittsburgh Housing Authority agree to provide all maintenance of the community building and the outdoor play areas, and to furnish all equipment, supplies and materials necessary for the community program; and (2) that any other agency, public or private, desiring to serve the leisure-time interests of the residents of the project be required to work under the general management of the Community Center Director assigned by the city. All parties agreed to these terms.

## How should community services within housing projects be administered?

The city of Pittsburgh furnishes two qualified recreation leaders full time in addition to the Community Center Director; two part-time specialists for an average of fifteen hours per

week; and the services of its supervisory staff in the Bureau of Recreation. Several part-time workers are supported by private agencies, such as the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A., and the settlement houses. The Board of Education assigns several teachers for evening classes in shopwork, sewing, and adult education. A library now operates in the community building as a branch of the city-wide system.

These professional workers are supplemented by a large corps of volunteers recruited through the Tenants Council, the Community Council of the district, and the Office of Civilian Defense. The volunteer group has been given a training course by the Community Center Director and his staff.

Early in the development of this program a Recreation Committee was formed, the members being drawn from both the Tenants Council and the Community Council of the Hazelwood District, in order that residents and nonresidents alike might share with the staff in the task of forming general policies and in planning program activities. The Community Center Director has consulted the Project Manager frequently on all policy matters, and has had his valuable assistance in working with the Tenant's Council.

Strenuous efforts were made from the very beginning to close the gap between the new tenants of the housing project and the neighbors living in the adjoining community. This was made considerably easier than it otherwise would have been by the presence of a recreation staff furnished by the city and at city expense to coordinate the program and to conduct many of the activities.

The program itself has been of considerable scope. A nursery school is now in operation. Club organizations of all kinds are flourishing. Entertainments, including movies, are promoted. An eye is kept upon the development of the protective

services of Civilian Defense, and a good deal of voluntary assistance has been secured from the men and women engaged in these important tasks. Hobby groups, handcraft and shopwork have their part in the program. Dramatic productions are given at regular intervals. A community newspaper, published of, by, and for the readers, has come regularly from the mimeograph. Many have participated in the city-wide activities and organized leagues sponsored by the city Bureau of Recreation. For the most part the problem has not been so much one of promoting interest in such activities, but in finding time, space and leadership to supply the demand.

Judging from our experience at the Glen-Hazel Heights War Housing Project, and at other housing projects in the Pittsburgh Area, I believe that the case for municipal operation of community facilities within housing developments can be stated quite succinctly as follows:

(1) Leisure-time services are a legitimate and important function of municipal government. People have leisure time and are willing to pay through taxation for purchase, development, and operation of facilities for general use.

(2) The community facilities within housing projects should be operated by the municipalities in the public interest in order that these facilities may be fully available to the general public and that a desirable relationship between residents and nonresidents may be established. The success of this task will undoubtedly have an important influence in maintaining public support for future ventures in the housing field.

(3) It is quite important that facilities within housing projects be designed in a way that will permit full use with a minimum amount of supervision. It is also important that the larger community be kept in mind in choosing a site for a community building, for otherwise no amount of supervision or organization will result in the use of the building by nonresidents.

(4) The emphasis in community programs should be placed on mass activities, coupled with special interest classes in order that due attention may be given to the individual.

I am aware of some of the practical objections which may be raised against the viewpoint which I have just stated. Many local communities, particularly in those industrial areas which have been

greatly expanded by the war effort, cannot afford to underwrite the cost of such programs within housing projects. The immediate answer to this problem is Federal subsidy to the local community under the terms of the Lanham Act if anyone can find a way to crack the iron gates which apparently shackle this money in the Federal Treasury, and prevent its use for the purposes intended. From a long range point of view this problem raises more serious matters which must be dealt with honestly and realistically if the housing movement and the community services program are to make any further progress.

In my own city it is evident to most citizens that the tax base is crumbling, that the physical boundaries of the city as now recorded on the statute books are a fiction, and that the health, welfare and recreation services rendered citizens who live outside the city proper, particularly in the industrial towns, is almost negligible.

Within the past ten years the city of Pittsburgh has lost \$180,000,000 in assessed valuations. Its operating budget is \$5,000,000 less than it was in 1931, in spite of the great increase in public facilities and services which have been stimulated by the various Federal programs since 1933. These are facts which can be duplicated in most of the large cities of the country. They point to a rather evident conclusion that the forces of the housing movement and the recreation movement must be directed toward the reorganization of local government, toward the revamping of the tax structure, and toward the discovery of ways of giving local governments greater freedom if the required redevelopment of large areas of our cities which are crumbling is to be accomplished.

The material which is presented here was taken from an address given by Mr. Wadsworth at a meeting held in New York City on May 20th. For further testimony regarding the importance of co-operative working relationships between municipal recreation departments and housing developments we refer our readers to an article entitled "Public Housing Brings a New Era in Recreation." In this article, which appeared in the March, 1943, issue of *RECREATION*, William Frederickson tells of the plan of cooperation developed between the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department and the Los Angeles City Housing Authority.

# "Play with a Purpose"

By VIRGINIA MCCARTNEY

THE PLAY SCHOOL idea is not a new one, but The Play Clubs of Chicago, many leaders in the recreation field believe, is a pioneer in the type of work it is doing with boys and girls. Established in the depression year of 1930 by Preston Zimmerman, a graduate law student, the organization is still functioning successfully.

There are many reasons for its success, chief among them being that "Zimmie," as he is known to the children, has honestly endeavored, through his policies and the guidance he gives each member of his staff, to help the individual boy and girl in making social adjustments to group play and group life.

The fact that the children come from "more affluent sections" than the neighborhoods where live most of the children who attend the public playgrounds does not mean that they are perfectly adjusted or that, because they have all money can buy, they have everything. On the contrary, many of these children are more self-centered, more selfish, and face just as many problems in building up confidence in groups of children of their own age, in learning to play fair, and in developing consideration for others. I have worked with children of low income groups and I know that poverty, in itself, teaches many lessons. It is important, however, not to lose sight of the benefits gained by society in helping boys and girls from more privileged homes, who in later years will frequently be in a position to do much for society and *will*, if true consideration for others is learned early in life.

Play Clubs of Chicago functions the year round, the programs being conducted after school and on Saturdays during the school term, and full time in the summer. The immediate areas served are the Hyde Park District, South Shore, and Beverly Hills. The Hyde Park and South Shore areas are largely apartments and hotels. In such sections of

**"Play with a Purpose" is the motto of a privately promoted organization in Chicago which provides play opportunities for children on a fee basis.**

large cities there is a special recreation problem for two reasons — limited play space and lack of playmates. Play Clubs brings both to the often unchildlike life of these children. They are called for, either at school or at their residence, and taken home in Ford station wagons. The whole city of Chicago, with its swimming pools, ice skating areas, beaches, parks, museums, and The Play Club Headquarters, is their playground.

"Play with a Purpose" is the motto of Play Clubs and it does not end in being printed on the office stationery. Play Club counselors are more than physical directors, for while they must be capable of teaching all the sports, more emphasis is placed on the social development of the child, using activities as a means to this end. Activities are judged from a long-range view, and programs are not set up as methods of amusement, but rather as they will assist the child in making happy adjustments in school and home, camp and community.

All Play Club counselors are personally selected by the director, and during the apprentice period he works with them and supervises all groups. The staff comes from Chicago Theological Seminary, The University of Chicago, George Williams College, and the public school playgrounds. All applicants must be qualified to give good technical instruction in games and sports, must have the ability to carry through a balanced program, to make reports on physical and social progress of the child, to deal calmly with emergencies as well as with the everyday problems.

Each counselor plans his or her program, keeping in mind the fact that while it must be varied it must also be flexible enough to allow for changes due to disinterest, fatigue, and the ever constant variable, the weather. Programs include every worth-while non-commercial activity in the city.

**"Privately promoted play clubs are conducted on a fee basis and located largely in more affluent sections of the city, providing a wide range of recreational and educational activities for boys and girls from four to fourteen years of age."**

Thus the 1942 Report of the Chicago Recreation Commission calls attention to the activities of The Play Clubs of Chicago, whose objectives, program, and methods of operation are described by Mrs. McCartney, Counselor to the Clubs and teacher at the Hyde Park School for Little Children.



An occasional play at Goodman Theater of the Art Institute of Chicago is perhaps the only exception to the rule that commercial recreation facilities are not to be used.

One of the favorite activities of Play Club boys and girls is visiting the fascinating Museum of Science and Industry, where they can see everything from how coal is actually mined to real termites

lunching on a tree trunk. Here, among other things, they can go through a whispering gallery, hear how their voices sound on the telephone, see metal poured, or get in and work the controls of a huge locomotive. It is a wonderland for boys and girls of any age.

Both ice skating and roller skating are popular, and coasting and tobogganing have their share of votes. Hiking along trails in the parks and along the lake is fun especially if the children take along food for the birds and squirrels. Hunting for shells on the beach is fun, too, and so is building whole cities in the sand, although the girls prefer shell hunting as they can make necklaces and bracelets of them later. Watching the tigers and lions eat their dinner fills an exciting hour at the Zoo, and a trip to Field Museum or Shedd Aquarium is greeted with enthusiasm.

Games form a large part of the fun of Play Clubs and there are many old favorites that the children have loved through the years. Many of them are peculiar to Play Clubs. For instance, how many of you know how to play "Kick the Can," "Chinese Over the Wall," "Chasey," "Steal the Bacon," "Touch It," "Higher Than the Ground," or "Poor Pussy"?

In storytelling Play Clubs claims a distinction in that the director writes his own stories. The same characters always turn up in the most unbelievable places; Skinny, a small candle, and Fatty, a balloon, real little people whom "Zimmie"



*Courtesy Indianapolis Park Department*

contrives to get into much mischief and countless exciting situations. For Skinny and Fatty, you see, live at Mary's and Phil's, both Play Clubbers. Counselors are urged to write their own Skinny and Fatty stories, but none can equal "Zimmie's" skill or bring quite the delight to the children in their telling.

To teach every child to swim is part of the Play Club plan. In the summer season many indoor pools are rented to teach swimming, and toward the end of the season parents attend meets where they see their Johnny or Jane swim, dive, perhaps just splash happily in the water. Overcoming fear of the water is the problem in teaching swimming, and there are very few in the group of three hundred who will not go into the water. To see a large group of five and six year olds really swimming is a delightful spectacle.

Nature study, handcraft, boxing, baseball, tennis, wrestling, and horseback riding round out the activities.

Character building through play is an integral part of the program. It can be said that Play Clubs centers around this one objective, although the health and safety of the child are of great importance. The director asks of parents what they want accomplished for their child, if there are any special problems, and in so far as this is possible without hindering or holding back the

*(Continued on page 354)*

# Camping with Crippled Children



**By MARY E. CHURCH**  
Executive Secretary  
Maryland League for Crippled Children

"**C**AMP GREENTOP" is a magic name to more than 400 crippled children in Baltimore and rural Maryland. It stands for that adventure often thought beyond the reach of a handicapped child. It stands for that joy which comes from the discovery of the wonders of nature, denied to the city's poor who live in a distorted environment. It stands for that thrill coming from the flame of the council fire, a symbol of camp communal fellowship, a symbol of reverence to our Creator. It stands for health regained in the great wide open, as well as the chance for character development through new wholesome experience.

It all started in the summer of 1937 when the Maryland League for Crippled Children, after years of study, was suddenly offered the use of a complete camp, beautifully situated in the mountains of central Maryland. The camp site comprised thirty-five acres, but many more adjacent acres for picnicking, over-night camping, nature trails, afforded endless experiences. This was the property of the National Park Service made available to qualified

agencies dealing with underprivileged children. The camp accommodated ninety-six children—forty-eight girls and forty-eight boys—twenty-four counselors, and an administrative staff consisting of director, assistant director for girls, assistant director for boys, resident physician, nurse, physiotherapist, dietitian, and kitchen staff. Here our camp program began and continued for five years until the War Department took over that site as an important war project area. However, the National Park Service allowed us the use of another camp suitable for the League's program.

## Selection of Campers

Physically handicapped children are the only ones considered for camp. Two-thirds of the children are from Baltimore and one-third from rural areas of Maryland. Enrollment is not entirely limited to Maryland children, however, and special cases from the District of Columbia and adjacent areas have been accepted.

The program is for underprivileged children, but pay cases may be accepted. Families are expected to make what financial contribution they can afford for their child's maintenance at camp.

Campers are recommended or approved by an orthopedic surgeon. All orthopedists in Maryland are members of the League's Medical Advisory Committee.

In selecting children for camp, emphasis is placed on the fact that not every crippled child is considered for this camp. Many such children can

and should go to camps designed for the normal child, according to the long-pursued philosophy of The Maryland League for Crippled Children—that every effort should be made to develop the crippled child to

"In every normal child is a powerful desire to discover the secrets of his own world. Crippled children living in overcrowded city areas have seldom been privileged to build character in nature's workshop. For them out-of-door recreation is a physical, mental and spiritual adventure, and around these three a camp program is created."

take his place in the normal and social scheme.

A camper must be able to walk from his cabin to the central unit, the greatest distance being about 600 feet. A camper wearing braces and using crutches can easily accomplish this when allowance is made for slowness. The campers range in age from seven to eighteen years of age. On the principle that children would derive little benefit from short camp periods, the League takes campers for the entire camp period of eight weeks.

A review of the causes of the campers' disabilities for the last six years, shows that poliomyelitis is responsible in thirty-two per cent of the cases. Cerebral palsy, tuberculosis of the bone, traumatic deformities, congenital deformities, osteomyelitis, and miscellaneous causes are next in order of frequency. Some children who need a minimum amount of physiotherapy, or who merely need the protection of restricted activity, are chosen because of their social needs.

These needs are determined by the social service workers on the staff of the Maryland League of Crippled Children, who know through their constant supervision of the homes the family limitations and the lack of understanding on the part of some parents.

#### Staff and Staff Training

Good leadership in camping must be found not only in the director, but in every member of the staff. Qualities of successful leadership of greatest importance are responsibility, mature judgment, and emotional maturity. Leaders and counselors

are expected to be mature adults capable of managing their own lives before they try to handle the problems of others.

The director of Camp Greentop has been with the camp since its inception and now has a total of twenty-seven years of camp experience to his credit. He is a teacher of physical education in a boys' high school. The assistant director for boys is vice-principal of a grade school and has had thirteen years of experience in camping, six of which have been at Greentop. The assistant director for girls also is a teacher of physical education in high school and has a total of nine years



These young craftsmen may develop a life's vocation out of a pleasant hobby



camping experience, six of them at Greentop.

Senior counselors are chosen for their ability as counselors in arts and crafts, nature lore, recreation, music, and for their general experience in leadership. No one under twenty-one is considered as a senior staff member, and the average age has been twenty-five. The junior staff consists of college and high school students with special leadership ability. Each junior is assigned as assistant to a senior counselor.

Applicants who are accepted are notified to report for a training class, which consists of four lectures covering camp organization, camp pedagogy, camp program, and medical factors to be considered.

A program of in-service training is a part of the camp policy. It is carried out by means of frequent professional meetings of the entire staff, meetings of sections of the staff, and individual conferences of staff members and directors.

### Program

Confronting the staff is the fact that these campers are physically handicapped children, some of whom have had extended periods of hospitalization, or come from homes where they are either over-protected or are subjected to distressing environments. Again, the crippled child is blocked in his recreation needs in his own neighborhood. This child wants not only to belong to the neighborhood gangs, but to participate in the social life of a child. The philosophy of the camp is to allow children to develop freely under new leadership and along new lines in the camp environment.

The most valuable parts of the program are those which have the greatest camper participation. Campers originate the activity, plan its execution, and carry it through to a successful conclusion with staff help kept to a minimum or dispensed with altogether.

After rising bell at seven o'clock, breakfast at eight o'clock, cabin clean-up, and so forth, the morning hours are free for group activities. Each camper before coming to camp is graded by his own orthopedist, who designates activities for him, such as ball games, hiking, amount of swimming, etc. This information is filed both with the counselor in the child's cabin and with the assistant director. Campers decide when to play active

games, softball, deck tennis, table tennis, and so forth, with rules changed to suit their disabilities. Toward the end of camp season tournaments in nearly all activities become extremely popular. A camper committee of nine makes the rules, the schedule, and all plans, showing fine evidence of careful judgment and enthusiastic participation.

The younger children enjoy games such as croquet, miniature golf, and a variety of circle and group games; and the girls make camp gardens, cut paper dolls, and play mothers. It is traditional for the little girls eight to ten years of age to act as hostesses at parties, and to initiate the first outdoor breakfast, planning their own menu with the counselor and dietitian, and inviting the boys of the same age group and the administrative staff.

Swimming is a favorite sport. At the beginning

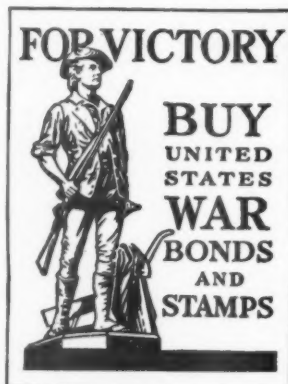
of the season children are allowed to go bathing, but no effort is made to teach them to swim. The swimming counselors observe and jot down notes to enable them later to place each camper in a swimming group where he will be able to learn to the maximum advantage. Here there is close supervision and cooperation with the physiotherapist. Specific exercises are recommended for some children, and certain swimming strokes are supervised.

The arts and crafts shop is fully equipped so that any child even with

little initiative or little imagination finds ample opportunity to develop skills, appreciation of good workmanship, and motor coordination. Unlike the school workshop, there is no set curriculum, so that the child may use materials at hand or materials furnished by nature to develop his creative powers. Included in these crafts are leather work, metal tapping woodworking, wood burning, airplane building, craft strip weaving, boat building, and many other activities difficult to classify. The girls enjoy basket weaving, knitting, sewing, making dolls, crocheting pocketbooks, and many other activities. Emphasis is placed on the occupational therapy aspect of craft work for children designated by the medical staff.

The surroundings of the camp offer limitless opportunities for nature study. Wild flowers abound near the waterfall. Each summer, gardens are planted around the cabins, especially in the girls' and the small boys' sections. Spatter prints

*(Continued on page 353)*



# It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

## Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

**N***NATURALIST Programs, National Parks.* A survey reveals that 500 naturalists in 280 areas are conducting 77 free public programs along the same lines as in national parks. They may be classified as follows: hotel, 1; hospital, 1; societies, 13; museums, 4; sanctuaries, 2; botanical gardens, 1; state departments, 12; metropolitan districts, 3; county commissions, 2; city park and recreation departments, 15; national park service units, 23.

*Nature Recreation.* If one purpose of a recreation department is to fill the gaps, the results of a recent report on the "Teaching of Biology in Secondary Schools of the U. S." (the New York Science Press) are significant. Biology teachers are asking for summer field courses. Rural New England is far behind the country in facilities in schools. There is a widespread tendency to teach biology as a way to pleasing hobbies. Evolution is taught in less than half of the high schools and even then "is frequently diluted beyond recognition . . . as to preclude a new ripple of thought." In New England sex education is taught slightly and in the West in 75 per cent of the schools. Only 50 per cent of the biology teachers attempt field trips.

*Nature Service.* Washington, D. C., has the only Metropolitan Nature Service sponsored by the National Park Service. This unique long-range program serves 10,000 school children through Junior Leaders. Such a plan is cumulative in power.

*Newton, Sir Isaac (1642-1727).* Mrs. Roger W. Babson, at Babson Park, a suburb of Boston, has restored the Fore Parlor of Newton's London House in the library of Babson Institute. This library contains all the editions of the works

of Newton. In these days of barbarism we might well think of the inscription translated on Newton's tomb in Westminster Abbey: "Mortals, congratulate yourselves that so great a man has lived for the honor of the human race."

*Outdoor School of Religion and Nature Study,* for boys and girls 9 to 12 years of age, sponsored by the Worcester, Massachusetts, Council of Churches and the Natural History Society, was conducted in July. The Natural History Society also ran a school of nature training for children who will assume leadership in various clubs. Martha Hall is the new director of children's work.

*Pan American Conservation.* The treaty to clarify and coordinate the park and conservation program of the Americas is a sure-fire basis for a bond of peace. We can all talk about protecting scenery, wild flowers, native animals, and nature programs with profit. These are spiritual things with which we can win through. The signatory nations are Guatemala, El Salvador, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, and the United States.

*"Plants, Economic,"* U. S. Dept. of Agriculture Circular 412. A compilation of plants valuable for wild-life utilization and erosion control. This pamphlet also has a value for camp and for park managers. Among the list are greens, medicinal herbs, fruits for preserves, jellies and drinks, and uses for wood.

*Poultry Raising.* Fun or work? If over 60 per cent of high school youth go into industry and are now taught a few skills in poultry raising, gardening, dairying, and meat handling, I claim that they are being conditioned for a future hobby. And, after all, football can be work. In October 1621,

(Continued on page 362)



Print by Gedge Harmon

# WORLD AT PLAY



---

## Solving the Flag Pole Problem

---

GARVEY Memorial Park in Los Angeles, California, has solved the problem of keeping children from swinging on the halcyards of an open flag pole by constructing a pylon which encloses the pole, leaving at one side a small opening from which the flag can be raised and lowered. The pylon is also used as an honor roll with the names of community men and women in the armed services posted on its sides.

---

## Books for Servicemen

---

OVER five million books have been collected in the 1943 Victory Book Campaign thus far, according to the *Bulletin* of the American Library Association for July, 1943. Nearly two million are already in the hands of men in the services, and additional allocations are being made daily as new requests are received from all branches of the service.

The Council on Books in Wartime has sponsored a plan for publishing and distributing free to men in the armed forces abroad approximately 35,000,000 books for recreational reading in "armed services editions," which are to be inexpensively produced and expendable. The plan has been worked out by a committee of publishers in cooperation with the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps.

---

## "J-16's"

---

"J-16's" (Just Sixteen) is an interesting teen age club in Chicago made up of boys and girls sixteen years of age. One of their important activities is running errands and performing small duties for the OCD.

---

## Recreation for War Workers

---

THE Union County, New Jersey, Park Commission has set aside one swimming pool in the heart of an industrial area for the use of war workers coming off graveyard shifts. The pool is open two mornings each week at seven o'clock. Other services to war workers include the organization of morning leagues for night workers who wish organized recreation and the conducting for industrial plants of the leagues' meets and tournaments. Assistance has been given plant personnel officials in setting up a recreation program, and programs for picnics and outings have been established.

---

## "The Legend of the Ship"

---

AROUND "The Legend of the Ship," which tells how the carpenters, the blacksmiths, the roof makers, and all the artisans of the city built a ship "a long time ago," the Park Commission of Charleston, West Virginia, has created a fascinating story of the development of its recreation program. The report, which is largely pictorial, is designed to show the citizens of Charleston the extent of the program and what the cooperation of many groups has accomplished.

RECREATION



**"It's Everybody's Job"** — Responsibility for the recreation of war workers and their families rests squarely upon the local community and its citizens, according to *Recreation—A Resource of War*, an 8 page pamphlet recently published by the Division of Recreation, Office of Community War Services.

Following up this challenge, the pamphlet lists clearly and concisely ways in which communities can meet the off-the-job needs of war workers. Suggestions are made for public and private agencies, labor unions, war plants, commercial enterprises, churches, housing projects, dormitories, trailer camps, and other community groups.

The pamphlet and the report from which it was prepared, *Spare Time—A War Asset for War Workers*, may be had free of charge from the Division of Recreation, Federal Security Agency, Social Security Building, Washington 25, D. C. The full report describes experiences of several communities which may serve as examples for leaders in other parts of the country.

**A Note From Chicago** — A drum corps for boys and girls is the outgrowth of the Chicago block organization. Only five boys appeared at the first meeting, and great difficulty was encountered in securing instruments. Now there are 82 boys and girls equipped with instruments, with 162 on the waiting list. When they perform along the streets, they arouse much interest.

**Winning U. S. Army Basketball Team Entertained**—On April 9, 1943, the winning U. S. Army basketball team in Scotland were the guests of the American Red Cross Service Club in Edinburgh. The eleven, with their coach, were given a trip to the city and royally entertained there. Twelve attractive Scotch lassies were invited to the dinner and dance which followed.

**Playgrounds in Akron, Ohio**—Since May 1, 1943, the number of playgrounds in Akron, Ohio, has increased from ten to thirty-six. Because of the acute manpower shortage the Recreation Department, of which A. E. Genter is director, was faced with a difficult problem in securing enough workers to man the new playgrounds. The Department sent sixty telegrams to physical education teachers and placed an ad in the newspapers. In three days ninety playground workers were engaged.

**Regarding the Model Airplane Project**—The July 1st issue of *Education for Victory* announces the termination of the model airplane project under which 500,000 model planes constructed by students enrolled in industrial arts and vocational courses in the public schools are being used by Army and Navy personnel. December 31, 1943, has been set as the latest date on which Navy certificates will be awarded for making approved models. It was agreed at a conference of representatives of the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics and the U. S. Office of Education that the closing of the project on a national basis should not terminate the work in so far as local schools are concerned, and schools are urged to supply local Army, Navy, and civilian defense officials who may request airplane models at any future date.

**Gainesville's Volunteer Lifeguard** — Glen Springs, a privately owned swimming pool outside of Gainesville, Florida, has been without the services of lifeguards for several years. This year, partly because of the increasing number of civilians and soldiers using the pool, the Recreation Department has established a volunteer lifeguard corps so organized that the pool is guarded by a senior lifeguard or an instructor every afternoon from 1:00 to 5:00. For this service the owner of the pool permits the Recreation Department to conduct classes free of charge, and the lifeguards are given free entrance at any time.

**"Church of the Moon and Stars"** — Each Thursday and Sunday evening a community sing is held in Austin, Texas, under the auspices of the Recreation Department. On Sunday over 5,000 people take part in the program, which is known as the "Church of the Moon and Stars."

**A Swimming Pool for Stay-Home Recreation**—Now that pleasure driving is out for the duration, the towns of Lansford, Coaldale, and Summit Hill, Pennsylvania, are building a \$50,000 community swimming pool for the recreation of the stay-at-home citizens of the Panther Valley. The pool is a joint project of the communities, which raised \$25,000 toward the cost when the Lehigh Navigation Coal Company promised to contribute a similar sum.

## Exercise RECREATION Competition

**TWO-WAY BOWLING** alleys are space saving . . . a complete Bowling Alley that is operated by the players themselves, no pin boys required.

**TWO-WAY BOWLING** alleys sell for a fraction of the cost of regulation alleys. Superbly constructed to last a *life-time*. Though **TWO-WAY BOWLING** alleys fill every need for competition, relaxation, and exercise, they do not make the physical demands on the players that regulation bowling does.

Our special "E-Z" construction means easily assembled and just as easily taken apart—completely portable—for in or outdoor use.

**Two-Way Bowling Alleys** now offer many hours of relaxation to our men and women in the Air Corps, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy, Y.M.C.A., W.A.C., and U.S.O. from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to Alaska—from New York to California. (Circular gladly furnished upon request.)

Additional score sheets furnished free to all branches of the armed services and the U.S.O. Centers using **TWO-WAY BOWLING** alleys, through the courtesy of **W.A.L.E.S. B.O.W.L.I.N.G. A.L.L.E.Y.S.**



AMERICA'S MOST SENSATIONAL GAME...  
**BOWLING THE NEW 2-WAY**

### EQUIPMENT FURNISHED

Consists of the following:

- One** High-Grade, Hardwood Alley with swinging ends. 23 feet overall.
- Two** sets of ten pins each (20) Highest Grade Hardwood, 7 1/2" x 2 3/8" belly thickness.
- Two** Hardwood Bowling Balls 3-9/16" in diameter.
- Two** Pit Floor Mats.
- Two** Pit Base Felts.
- Two** Heavy Swinging Cushions.
- 500** Score Sheets.
- Portable:** Packed in sections—"E-Z" Set Up" Construction.

Patent No. 2247769

### DIMENSIONS

- Length,** 23 feet overall.
- Width,** 32 inches overall.
- Height** of alley above floor, 18 inches.
- Height** of both ends from floor, 38 inches.
- Approximate** shipping weight, 800 pounds.

**Also Manufactured in the Following Sizes:**  
10 feet x 22 inches  
15 feet x 26 inches

## TWO-WAY BOWLING CORPORATION 114 East 32nd St., New York. Tel. LExington 2-8828

The pool will measure 100 feet by 200 feet. One section is to be for small children, a second for larger children, and the third for diving and water sports. Dressing rooms and rest rooms are being built along the two sides. Mountain spring water at the rate of 2,000 gallons a minute will be pumped into the pool from the supply line of the Lehigh Company at its Lansford colliery, and waste water will be fed back into the colliery for industrial use.

**Danville Secures Year-Round Specialist in Nature Recreation**—Danville, Virginia, is one of the few cities in the southeastern section of the country to have a full-time, year-round nature recreation specialist and program. On June 15, 1943, the Recreation Commission appointed John Westbrook, Jr., to take charge of the nature program. Mr. Westbrook's profession is music and his lifelong hobby has been nature recreation. His many collections of nature objects will assist greatly in creating interest in the program. An outline for a nature

recreation program has been made, and a weekly course of instruction for playground leaders has been initiated.

**"The Head Guides the Hand"**—Members of the Handicraft Division of the Burgess Battery Company contributed to the following definition of "Handicraft" which was formulated by a special committee—"Handicraft is pleasurable non-commercial occupation wherein the head guides the hand in fashioning materials into desired products." Every member of the Handicraft Division was asked to learn this definition and study its meaning.

### From an Annual Report

(Continued from page 319)

a broader capacity by opening art classes to talented students and furnishing rooms for Red Cross meetings and other special activities. The city has also placed another of its museums, the C. Henry Memorial, under the supervision of the department.

## Camping with Crippled Children

(Continued from page 348)

offer a valuable opportunity to study the various trees and leaves. Butterflies and moths are caught and mounted as permanent nature displays. "What is this?" is a contest carried on throughout the camp season and consists of identifying a new nature specimen displayed each day. Many books on wild flowers, birds, and trees are found in the nature library for use of the campers. Hikes offer an opportunity for the campers to discover the habitat of birds and rabbits. Nests of the ring-necked pheasants and the bobwhites are often found.

The older girls and boys express their appreciation for their camp experience by making some pioneer project their objective. As a gift from the 1940 group there is now an overnight camp site with an Adirondack lean-to, open fireplace, and frames for cots. Under the guidance of the boys' senior counselor all plans were drawn up, wood shaped, and stones placed in position by the older boys. The girls made the canvas covers for the cots.

Two camp libraries are a great joy to the campers. A camper assumes the responsibility of librarian, checking books in and out. The books are the gifts of organizations and friends, and the shelves are a contribution by the boys.

### Medical Supervision

Medical supervision starts with the Medical Advisory Committee of the Maryland League for Crippled Children composed of sixteen orthopedists, two of whom are assigned to visit camp once a week on different days. They act as consultants in problems arising from activities on the part of some campers, adjustment of braces, periods of swimming, and so forth. In camp the physiotherapist is responsible for all matters pertaining to orthopedic appliances, and interpretation of activities allowed the camper.

The camp doctor and nurse are in charge of the Infirmary, which is well equipped to care for eight sick campers at a time. Such minor injuries as cuts and bruises are promptly taken care of, and regular dispensary hours are established for those patients needing further care. A neighboring physician acts as consultant on all cases where there is any doubt as to diagnosis and treatment. An excellent hospital a short distance from camp is available for any serious injury.

The nurse has charge of the weekly weighing period and with the camp clerk records all treat-



ments, weights, and so forth, in the camper's medical history.

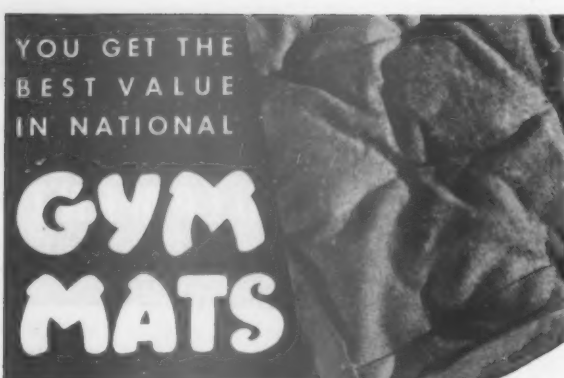
All matters of food are handled by the dietitian, including food purchasing and menu planning. Campers who require extra nourishment report at a regular time in the morning and afternoon. The average number receiving special diets is thirty-three.

### Summary and Evaluation

It is difficult to evaluate all benefits enjoyed by the children. Their social experience has been broadened and the wonders of nature have been opened to them in contrast to the narrow alleys and corner playgrounds of the city. The counselors keep a record of each child's progress and social responses. Campers are usually examined by their orthopedist shortly after return from camp. The results made frequently show improvement in general physical condition, including gains in weight, and so forth. Marked improvement in muscle tone is noted in some cases as a result of increased outdoor exercise.

Campers are constantly relating camp experiences in their classrooms, where improvements in poise and social security are most noticeable. Parents report that the campers show more consideration for others in the home, more self-assurance, more unselfishness in sharing playthings, more obedience, and most of all a sense of appreciation of surroundings, and a greater joy in living. The spiritual life of the child is enriched through a new concept of God in nature, through the quiet reverence around the weekly council fire, through vesper services, the singing of hymns and camp songs, and in some instances through new friendships established between campers and counselor. All these values may not be found in every child, but certainly they are found to such an extent that every effort to provide a camp experience for crippled children should be encouraged. It is another opportunity for that fullness of life barred in so many instances by physical handicaps.





**Ruggedly Built**  
**Priced Right**  
**100% Safe**

Made of real Layer Felt and guaranteed free from broken punching needles, common in ordinary punched process felts.

National Mats and Pads are widely used by High Schools, Universities and Colleges throughout the country. They represent outstanding values... built right... priced right... and stand the gaff.



**NATIONAL SPORTS EQUIPMENT CO.**

365-75 MARQUETTE — — FOND DU LAC, WIS.

## RECREATION FOR WAR WORKERS . . .

**T**his booklet, designed to serve as a guide for workers in charge of recreation in war plants, is a particularly timely publication. It attempts to suggest in very simple terms the ways in which recreation can help workers in war plants get the most out of their leisure time and find personal satisfactions in spite of their heavy responsibilities and demanding jobs.

Because community recreation workers have so definite a responsibility for providing facilities and activities, suggestions are offered in the booklet which will be of interest to municipal recreation departments and private groups providing recreation.

The chapter headings cover such subjects as Special Problems in Wartime Industrial Recreation; Activities; Planning and Starting the Program; The Community and the War Worker; Organization and Administration of the Plant Program.

Appendices offer constitutions and by-laws of employees activities associations and athletic associations, a form for an industrial recreation interest survey, a number of sample programs, and similar information.

*Order your copies at 35 cents each  
from the*

**National Recreation Association**  
 315 Fourth Avenue New York 10, N. Y.

## John J. Considine

**A**FTER 20 YEARS of service in Detroit, Michigan, John J. Considine took office on March 25, 1943, as General Superintendent of Parks and Recreation succeeding to the position which had formerly been held by Clarence E. Brewer.

### "Play with a Purpose"

(Continued from page 345)

group as a whole, every effort is made to carry out these wishes—with two important exceptions:

The frank discussion and facing by parents of children's problems is essential to helping the child. It is recognized that in normal growth and development there are many natural problems, and the sooner recognized, the better for all concerned. Adult recognition at home is very different from the recognition a child receives in a group of his contemporaries. It is a sad thing when a boy or girl has not learned to get this normal recognition validly, because he wants and needs it so badly. He, just as do all of us, wants to be accepted and to be liked. The other exception is that Play Clubs does not enroll abnormal children in the group, feeling that this is another field requiring further specialized training.

Age groups in Play Clubs are separate, and each group has activities suitable to the age and sex of the group. The age lines are not hard and fast, as behavior problems are often eliminated by merely placing the child in another group. A brownie girl, large for her age, is a bully. She is promoted to the midgets, where she finds keener competition, where the overaggressiveness is checked both for the good of her own developing self and for the physical well-being of the other girls. When a child, in any situation, learns that valid recognition and praise of the group is more pleasant than the attention gained from erratic behavior, he chooses the more pleasant way.

Finally, a fine laboratory for social understanding is found in the make-up of the Play Club group, as all nationalities and religions are represented. Many refugee children are in Play Clubs, and this is an especially enlightening experience both for the strange little child and for the often derisive group he joins. The complex problem of teaching acceptance and tolerance to the bewildered child of war and to the privileged child of America is a hard task. This, too, is the work of The Play Clubs of Chicago.

RECREATION



## THE NEW COACH... *On the Home Front*

**An important war job for the wives and mothers of America**

UNTIL NOW, no American mother, as she tucked her little boy into his crib, has had to face the frightening thought that some day he would *have* to be a soldier. *Our* mothers have been spared that fear.

Now, with America determined to *fight* for the things we hold dear, we cannot neglect these *human machines* upon which we depend for victory.

America's fighters must be *made* and *kept* physically fit for a winning fight against enemies who have lived and trained for war since childhood.

And this is where the patriotic women of America—women made of just as sturdy stuff as any women in the world, can do another important job for victory, and for postwar progress.

We need a Coach in every home where a boy is approaching military age. A coach, with a mother's love, to inspire this youth. To keep him playing your rugged American sports, which develop the *strength*, the *skills* and *agilities* that will assure him a better chance to win—and to come home from the war with a sound mind in a sound body.

We need a Coach in every home

where there are *war-workers* and *civilian workers* on the Home Front. A Coach with a mother's deep interest—a wife's love—to keep these indispensable men exercising—playing their golf, tennis, badminton, softball, volley ball; doing their calisthenics, taking walks, gardening, etc. They, too, must be kept strong for the job ahead of us during the war and *after* the war.

We need a Coach in every home where there are growing daughters—a Mother-Coach. She must see that they develop the health and vitality—through regular exercise—that America's women must have to meet the problems of the war and the postwar age.

This is extra war work that the patriotic women of America are being asked to assume—a new job for them, but a job *they* will love because it's for the *ones* they love.

On *our* part, and we speak for the whole Sporting Goods Industry, we shall continue to voice the importance of America's competitive sports to the physical fitness of our fighters, workers and people. And we shall continue to supply all the sports equipment *that available materials permit*.

Wilson Sporting Goods Co., and Wilson Athletic Goods Mfg. Co., Inc.  
Chicago, New York and other leading cities

**Wilson**  
**SPORTS EQUIPMENT**

**IT'S WILSON TODAY IN SPORTS EQUIPMENT**



The symbol of Uncle Sam's appreciation awarded to the workers and management of . . .

**DIAMOND CALK HORSESHOE COMPANY**

. . . for their part in the war effort, through the furnishing of tools for the maintenance of mobile equipment of the Army, Navy, and Air Corps, at home and abroad.

**4610 Grand Ave.  
Duluth, Minnesota**



### "The Ranch House"

(Continued from page 314)

Fifteen-year-old Danny Stark is doing lots of the interior decorating. For one thing, he is designing a frieze around the walls of the main room. It will contain a western procession of covered wagons and horsemen. Danny plans a bucking broncho mural for the reading room, and a chuck wagon scene for the lunch room.

The town approves of The Ranch House. From friends have come some really beautiful and choice gifts—an imposing buffalo head, two deer heads, a mounted mountain lion skin, two beautiful mounted pheasants, a Navajo rug, a handsome Mexico serape in lovely blue and red shades, and Mexican lanterns to use as chandeliers in the lounge.

With the adult governing group composed of representatives of various civic organizations is a junior governing body of twenty-four members selected by the High School faculty. This student Council is called the Cattlemen's Association! It drew up the constitution, and a very good one it is, too.

Volunteer adult hostesses will attend all evening sessions. At all times when the building is open, a

junior host and hostess will be on hand. They will welcome the guests and plan at least two games for each evening. Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and similar organizations may use the building providing the meeting is not scheduled for the regular sessions. If possible, The Ranch House hopes to employ a permanent adult secretary for the winter school term.

Dues are \$1 per year, payable semi-annually. The big "Round-Up" will be about August 1, when The Ranch House will have open-house. The boys and girls are planning their cowboy and cow-girl costumes, and will welcome the townspeople with a short program of cowboy songs and dances. And then The Ranch House will be officially open—a real Western center for Western boys and girls!

### Witches and "Punkin" Heads . . . .

(Continued from page 334)

mallow to each side with a toothpick for ears. Trim with potato chips.

You can have pumpkin cup cakes—frosted with a sugarless orange icing, using chocolate for features. Or make little honey cookies in the shape of a moon, cat or witch. Orange and black candy may be used as a part of the refreshments also.

After your guests have feasted heartily on the Halloween "goodies" you'll want a clever way of saying goodbye.

**The Old Witch Is Dead.** This game will do the trick neatly. It will bring your party to a close with everyone much to their surprise waving goodbye to each other at the same time.

The game is played with the players standing or sitting in a circle. The leader turns to the person on his left and says, "The Old Witch Died." The person addressed replies, "Really! How did she die?" "With her left arm high," replies the leader, raising his left arm. The second player then makes the same announcement to the person on his left and the rime continues around the circle until everyone is standing or sitting "with his left arm high."

The second time around the leader repeats the statement, "The Old Witch Died," and when the next player asks, "Really! How did she die?" he replies, "With a left arm high, and a closed left eye." The original announcement, "The Old Witch Died," and the question, "Really! How did she die?" is repeated each time. On the third round



## The National War Fitness Conference

Cincinnati, Ohio, April 13-16, 1943

**H**ELD UNDER the auspices of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

The keynote of this meeting was on physical fitness for the present war emergency — both for men in the armed services and workers in war industries. The selective service figures on rejections for health reasons were thoroughly explored and the need for adjustment of prewar health and physical education practices discussed at length. Lesser consideration was given to postwar physical education policies and practices.

The Selective Service System figures brought out two significant facts: one, that age has a marked bearing on rejection rates, and two, that the rejection rate for Negroes is nearly twice that for whites, although educational deficiencies account for, perhaps, half of this differential.

The relation of age to rejection rate brought out the need for physical fitness programs for out of school youth and adults. It was agreed that this can be achieved only through the creation of a desire on the part of adults for continued physical fitness and a willingness to undertake a regular program of self-initiated activities.

Several meetings were held on recreation with the chief emphasis on the problems of and services to war workers. In discussing cooperation between municipal departments of recreation and boards of education, Dr. Louis R. Burnett, Director of Physical Education of Public Schools, Baltimore, stated that, "The use of school property and buildings as community recreation centers should be assigned to the board of recreation by the board of education."

the leader answers, "With her mouth awry." Each new gesture is added to the last and all are held until the game ends.

Finally, the leader announces that the next gesture is so hard to make that he is going to ask everyone to reply at the same time. He says once more, "The Old Witch Died." All the players answer him, "Really! How did she die?" And he says with much gusto and the appropriate gesture, "A-waving goodbye—so long, everybody!"

SEPTEMBER 1943

## NATIONAL GYM SUITS FOR GIRLS



Send for New Circular—Just Out!

It illustrates smart modern styled suits to meet every gym requirement, each an outstanding value in its field. National suits are recommended by hundreds of Physical Directors throughout the nation.

- **NATIONAL** gym suits are carefully manufactured and full cut with "action free" tailoring.
- **ALL NATIONAL** fabrics are mercerized for extra tensile strength, an added feature for longer wear.
- **NATIONAL** styles are smart and modern—tailored to look and wear to your complete satisfaction.

**NATIONAL**  
Sports Equipment Company  
365-375 Marquette Fond du Lac, Wis.

### • NEW BOOKS • By PORTER SARGENT

"WAR AND EDUCATION," 512 pp., black vellum, \$4.00, has been hailed with highest praise from competent critics—"Both a massively documented history and a bold but wise critique," *Earnest Hooton, Harvard*. "A treasure house of interesting ideas," *Frank H. Hankins, Smith*. "A very rich book bringing together a great number of the best utterances that have been made in our time," *E. A. Ross, Univ. of Wisconsin*. "Affords a living, realistic, wholesome and well presented approach to the realism of the present day," *Howard Odum, Univ. of N. C.*

"The most challenging, informing and constructive book now confronting thinking Americans," *Rev. Dr. Charles Francis Potter, N. Y.* "A must book for all men and women who are groping toward an understanding of what's the matter with our civilization," *Marco Morrow, Journalist, Kansas*. "Vigorous and original thinking . . . dressed in such a sonorous and resounding prose that I was reminded at once of Sir Thomas Browne," *Max Putzel, Washington, D. C.*

**A HANDBOOK OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS,** 1024 pp., red silk cloth, \$6.00, 27th ed., reviews the educational thought, activities and changes of the year and brings up-to-date listings and critical descriptions of over 3,000 schools.

*Circulars, Table of Contents and Sample Pages of above and Announcements of Forthcoming Publications on Request*

**PORTER SARGENT, 11 Beacon Street, Boston**

# JUNIOR ARTS & ACTIVITIES

the Magazine for  
YOU!

the Alert Elementary Teacher

The only national teachers magazine containing so much practical, creative material that you can put right to work in your classes:

**Democracy in the Classroom**, a new feature, designed to help you instill ideals of democratic living into the boys and girls under your care.

New series of articles on Music . . . Art . . . Reading and Literature . . . Woodworking . . . and many more.

If you are a Social Worker, Recreation Director, Leader of Children's and Young People's Groups, you will find abundant material each month in Junior ARTS & ACTIVITIES.

**10 BIG ISSUES  
ONLY \$3.00**

Regardless of the grade you teach or the group you lead, Junior ARTS & ACTIVITIES will give you the material you need. Every issue is profusely illustrated and contains projects for primary, intermediate, and upper grades. It makes work FUN! You owe it to yourself to obtain this helpful, usable material.

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!**

Junior ARTS & ACTIVITIES

R-9-43

4616 N. Clark St., Chicago 40, Ill.

Please enter my subscription for Junior ARTS & ACTIVITIES for 1 year, price \$3.00. If I am not satisfied, I may cancel my subscription within 10 days after receipt of the first issue. I enclose.....(date)  
or I shall remit.....(date)

Name.....

Address.....

City..... State.....

## The Fifth Day of the Fifth Moon

By BROOKS ATKINSON

Reprinted by permission of *The New York Times*

CHUNGKING, CHINA, June 7—This being the fifth day of the fifth moon of the Chinese calendar, all Chungking took a half holiday to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival as usual. Probably most of the river men who paddled the long, lean boats did not know they were honoring the memory of the poet Ch'u Yuan, who drowned himself 2,000 years ago because none heeded his warnings against corruption in the government.

But it was not necessary to be a scholar to enjoy the noise, excitement and pageantry of the dragon boat racing, with drums and gongs beating along the river, the paddlers' colored shirts and the rhythm of their stroke. Boatmen who generally are barely covered with ragged blue trousers today appeared in brilliantly colored shirts emblazoned with the decorative characters of their club, and were the heroes of their districts.

After soaking the bottoms of their boats with tung oil to make them slip through the water more swiftly, the racers launched their craft with the assistance of small boys whose heads were daubed with yellow to keep devils away. As the boats took to the swift muddy water of the Yangtze, rockets echoed wildly across the river and every one grinned and cheered.

At the proper dramatic moment the captain of one boat came rushing, gesticulating and shouting, down the steep bank, carrying a red and gold dragon's head and a twisted tail. He fastened the tail at the stern and set off firecrackers to frighten off devils.

When the boat was ready the captain stood theatrically on a narrow perch in the bow and waved long yellow sleeves to set time for the stroke. Amidships two other star actors beat a deep barrel drum and struck a gong. At the stern, where two men steered, the custodian of the rockets set off terrifying salutes.

According to tradition the dragon's head is supposed to plow the water, searching for the martyred poet who died for justice. In point of fact the Wanglungmen boatmen raced two other dragon boats twice across the river, letting out a tremendous chorus of roars at every stroke, playing shamelessly to the galleries on both banks,

RECREATION

**RECREATION IS AN INVESTMENT  
IN AMERICA'S FUTURE**

★

*Play with the best—as you work for Victory*

GENUINE AUTOGRAPHED LOUISVILLE SLUGGER BASEBALL BATS  
LOUISVILLE SLUGGER SOFTBALL BATS, LOUISVILLE POWER-BILT,  
LOUISVILLE GRAND-SLAM and LOUISVILLE  
LO-SKORE GOLF CLUBS

**HILLERICH & BRADSBY CO.**  
**LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.**

where thousands of persons were lined up on steps, walls and buildings.

Since the Wanglungmen boys had succeeded in driving the devils away by setting off firecrackers at just the right moments they won all the races and were rewarded with red sashes, handed down by the judges on a junk careening at a crazy angle near shore. Everyone looked and sounded enormously pleased. Naked boys dived into the swirling waters and swam to the boat to salute the victors.

Tomorrow the heroes of today's celebration will be riding battered sampans again, wearing rags, bending to the current of the Yangtze. . . . But in honor of an ancient poet they conquered one of the world mightiest rivers today.

### So This Is Tropical Languor!

(Continued from page 341)

the necessary safety valve. For others a book, a drawing board, chess, or a quiet corner in which to write is the means of again establishing equilibrium. To still others sports—swimming, ping-pong, active games—are the answers.

Of women volunteers there are all ages and types. With their ready smiles, their friendly greetings, they are the links between the men's civilian and military lives. Their very presence is a reassuring reminder of staunch family ties.

Does the military agree with and approve the Association's policies? It does, wholeheartedly. On most of these policies its officers were consulted before their adoption. They commend the good sense that inspired them. They appreciate the elasticity of the program and the careful cooperation which they have been given. The relationship of the Association with the armed forces stationed in this area is one of mutual respect and confidence.

Does the city of Miami Beach feel the Association fills a practical need in the community? Actions speak louder than words. The city has never failed to lend a helping hand whenever it saw the chance. The eight Pier centers have played an important part in reducing the city's policing problems. There were, for instance, the three corporals who came from out of town on a holiday, admittedly to paint Miami Beach a cherry red. They ended by squeezing oranges all afternoon



## FUN FOR HALLOWEEN

- Seventeen pages of spooky "doings" for your Halloween party. Party plans, invitations, decorations, refreshments, musical activities, stunts, and GAMES of all kinds.

- Plus a comprehensive bibliography of stories, plays, songs, and books—everything you need for a ghost-and-goblin celebration.

*Price 25 Cents*

**National Recreation Association**

315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

(in attractive feminine company) for the Pier dance which they attended that night.

Approval of the Association's organization was not given lightly by the city or the military officials. It was earned by these Miami Beach women and their Greater Miami colleagues. They demonstrated what they could do in a crisis that changed the town from a jeweled resort into a khaki-clad training center. They did not shirk the responsibility at their doorstep. And you can tell it. The inner satisfaction that comes from a hard job tackled and licked shines in their faces.

### Home Play on the Air

*(Continued from page 327)*

bility and concrete contribution to the war effort which it gives them. And here's another point I'd like to mention. It is not necessary for parents to feel they must play all the games with their children. Their part is to set the stage, stimulate the children to use their own initiative and imagination, and supply the encouragement by their interest and attention. For example, home dramatics. Children love to put on plays for a responsive audience. Then, of course, re-

turning to adults, how about that old game of Charades—in modern form—acting out the line of a song or an advertising slogan. And how about singing around the fireplace—or reading aloud? Adults can enjoy these things as well as children.

KEBBE: Miss Lee, home recreation seems to me to be an excellent opportunity for the man or woman in your neighborhood who has qualities of leadership, to organize parties and games and hikes and so on, isn't that so?

LEE: That is so, Mr. Kebbe. And remember, it's even *more* of an opportunity for us to get to know our *neighbors*—to become better acquainted with our *friends* . . . and to become *ourselves*, happier, more useful citizens. Family fun will take a little time, a little effort, and much imagination, but it will be a big war bond, paying a rich dividend in family spirit and zest. It will mean a growing spirit of neighborliness and well-being. Such a spirit is America's real front line of defense, and it is our privilege to hold it. The ideas for home play which I have given you listeners today are only a few out of many. Please note that the National Recreation Association is prepared at all times to give you any help and advice you may want. And now good-bye to you, Miss Wilson and Mrs. Sarto—thank you for inviting me to be with you today, and thank you all for listening.

KEBBE: Thank you, Susan Lee—for these interesting highlights on the work of the National Recreation Association.

SALLY: Ladies, the National Recreation Association has already distributed over a quarter million copies of a helpful booklet called *Home Play in Wartime*. This booklet contains twenty pages of information, directions and ideas for games, parties and hobbies that can be played in and about *your own home*. It tells you *how to use* the materials you have on hand to make many fascinating home games. If you want a copy, send ten cents, to cover the cost of handling and mailing to: The National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York City, 10.

KEBBE: You have been listening to Miss Jeannette Wilson and Mrs. John Sarto of Schenectady and Susan Lee, of the National Recreation Association, who have been with us today on the Women's War Forum.

# A New Book with 500 Art Craft Ideas

excellent for workshops

## CREATIVE ART CRAFTS

by PEDRO deLEMONS, Editor of *School Arts*

A grand work book with instructions, detailed directions, examples of finished work including a number of valuable recipes for making your own decorating materials.

You can turn to this book time after time to find new ideas, short cuts or for step by step methods. Instructions and information are given so clearly that you get the complete idea at a glance.

You can use inexpensive or cast off materials to do many of these projects—paper, cardboard, wood and scraps of metal, leather, cloth and even old tooth brush handles will do wonders with these ideas.

Three big sections: PAPER CRAFT—TOY CRAFT—RELIEF CRAFT, large pages 9" x 12", 80 pages of illustrations—8 in full colors.

Get this big work book—one of the best what-to-do and how-to-do it books on projects published.

### FILL IN COUPON AND MAIL TODAY

SCHOOL ARTS MAGAZINE, 939 Printers Bldg., Worcester, Mass.

Send the New book CREATIVE ART CRAFTS

Enclosed is \$3.75

NAME .....

ORGANIZATION .....

STREET .....

POST OFFICE .....



## Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of  
Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

### MAGAZINES

*Beach and Pool*, June 1943

If I Were to Build All Over Again, by Charles Fieldhouse

Why Turnstiles Click at New York City Municipal Pools, by John M. Simpson

*The Foil*, May 1943

The Modern Dance—Its Place in the High School Curriculum, by Caryl Cuddeback

*Hygeia*, August 1943

Teen Town, by Ella M. Philips

*Public Management*, June 1943

Preventing Juvenile Delinquency, by Elsa Castendyck

### PAMPHLETS

*A Civic Guide to Economy in Municipal Government: Number One, Budget*, 1943

Tax Foundation, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City

*Bibliography of Latin American Folk Music*, 1942

Compiled by Gilbert Chase. The Library of Congress, Division of Music, Washington, D. C.

*Children and Comic Magazines*. The answers to many questions parents and teachers are asking

Copies may be secured without charge from the Juvenile Group Foundation, 125 East 46th Street, New York City

*Film Catalogue*. 245 distributors of non-theatrical films Edited by Isidore Cooperman. Published by Aleph Zadek Aleph, B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, Executive Offices, 1003 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Price 15 cents

*Holidays and Festivals in Mexico*

Travel Division, Pan American Union, Washington, D. C. Price 5 cents

*Homes for Heroes*. Fourth annual report of the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles

*New York Is a Friendly Town*

New York City Defense Recreation Committee, Inc., 99 Park Avenue, New York City

*Physical Fitness*

Official Bulletin, No. 5, Keds Sports Department, United States Rubber Company, 1230 Sixth Avenue, New York City

*Religious Book List of Jewish, Catholic, Protestant and Good Will Books*. Second Edition, Revised

The National Conference of Christians and Jews, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York City

*The Folk Singer*. A storehouse of folk songs

Extension Service of the College of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin

SEPTEMBER 1943

## THE THANKSGIVING BOOK

HERE'S a book you'll be thankful for—a real holiday manual complete with background material and practical suggestions for a Thanksgiving program—PLUS a 7-page bibliography of entertainment ideas.

IF YOU'RE planning a play or pageant, here is a wealth of information about harvest-time traditions and ceremonies. . . . If it's a ceremonial or festival, use the ready-made scripts or adapt them for your locality. . . . Or if a party is on your schedule, try "The Apple is King."

*Forty-seven pages of helpful  
Thanksgiving material*

... Price 25 Cents

**National Recreation Association**

315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

*The Good Land.* A community song service of America with dramatic continuity

Extension Service of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Single copies free, additional copies 10 cents each

*Recreation for Servicemen—Enjoy Your Visit to Chicago.* Second Edition, May 1943

Chicago Recreation Commission, Chicago, Illinois

*The Booklist*—Vol. 39, No. 18, June 1, 1943, Part 2

The United Nations, a bibliography of the United Nations. American Library Association, Chicago, Illinois. Price 25 cents

*The Control of Juvenile Delinquency, Jackson County, Michigan.*

Report of a study by the National Probation Association

*The United Nations—Children's Books (List 1)*

A bibliography of books which offer honest knowledge of and respect for the peoples and countries of the United Nations

The Council on Books in Wartime, Inc., 400 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

*The War and Social Problems.*

Bulletin of the Russell Sage Foundation Library. No. 160. May 1943

*Vacationing in Chicago—Renew Energy for War Work.* Second Edition, May 1943

Published by the Chicago Recreation Commission, Chicago, Illinois

## A Wartime Church Picnic

(Continued from page 316)

everyone here was someone who had come to our party—not a passer-by on the beach." "They had time to talk with each other." The minister suggested—"I wonder if we can have another one in September—the response was so enthusiastic, we should open the fall season with a similar affair."

Several weeks later, this comment came from a man living in the community—"We don't go to this church, but we did come to your picnic. We enjoyed it so much that we 'stole your thunder' and put on your entire program at our church across the way. Let us know when you have another one."

## Why Archery?

(Continued from page 331)

Here are miscellaneous answers which ranked lowest in frequency: 1. Girls own their own archery sets and want to learn to use them. 2. Girls want to buy sets and consequently want to learn how to shoot. 3. They want to learn to shoot well. 4. They like to hunt with bow and arrow. 5. They want to develop skill in aiming.

These girls, of course, receive physical education credit for the one-year archery course. But every fall there are at least a hundred girls at Pasadena Junior College who come out after school four nights a week to practice shooting. This is a Women's Athletic Association activity for which no credit is given. These girls just like the sport.

What type of girl makes the best archer? Miss Graham has found that it isn't so much the physical build as intelligence. The 1941 Pasadena team was made up of the eight best women archers in the school. Four out of these eight were members of the scholarship society.

## It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

(Continued from page 349)

the Pilgrim Fathers were thankful for a bountiful harvest. In November 1943 we will hold an American harvest festival for the same reason. It makes a difference how we are thinking and reasoning now.

*Seashore.* "Along Our Coast," Margaret Miller. Dodd, Mead and Company, New York. 60 pp. \$1.50. Readable for children.

RECREATION



## New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

### Guide for the Study of American Social Problems

Compiled for the American Social Problems Study Committee. Columbia University Press, Morningside Heights, New York. \$1.00.

THE ANNOUNCED intention of this Guide is "to help you make democracy work." To achieve this aim, the Guide is set up in such a way that groups of citizens or citizens alone, leaders of groups, and opinion formers can find the materials they need. The contents are classified under such subjects as The Consumer; The Worker; The Farmer; Women; The Negro; Youth; Education; Housing; Civil Liberties; National Unity; and The Problem of Security.

### Songs of Many Wars

Edited and arranged by Kurt Adler. Howell, Soskin, Publishers, New York. \$3.00.

SONGS FROM the sixteenth century to World War II, from Civil War battlefields to underground anti-Nazi movements in Europe, from the Russian and Chinese to the British and American fronts, have been brought together in this interesting volume. While many of the songs are being published for the first time in this country, the volume also includes the classics of many wars. The text gives the background of each song. Piano arrangements are new and simple.

### Fitting the Home Game Room

Popular Mechanics Press, Chicago. \$25.

THIS PAMPHLET—one of the Little Library of Useful Information series—contains directions for constructing a multi-purpose game table which is small enough for two persons playing chess, checkers and backgammon, but is capable of instant enlargement so that it will be convenient for four or six persons playing bridge or poker. The booklet also contains directions for a regulation size tennis table, equipment for "swing ball," and a number of game accessories. There is also a section on Portable Basement Playrooms.

### The Party Game Book

By Jerome Meyer. Simon and Schuster, Inc., 1230 Sixth Avenue, New York. \$1.00.

MR. MEYER has given us in this book more of those clever mental games which help banish dullness from a party. There are fifteen new games and quizzes in this collection, with six sets of each game provided, easily removable from the book. The answers, too, are given.

### Arts, Crafts and Customs of Our Neighbor Republics

Bulletin 1942, No. 2. Compiled by Emilie Sandsten Lassalle. Library Service Division in cooperation with the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. Obtainable from Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. \$10.

THIS BIBLIOGRAPHY contains sources of information on the dress, festivals, crafts, and fine arts of South American republics. It will prove exceedingly valuable to schools and other groups bringing material about the daily life and customs of other Americans to young people in the United States.

### Education and the Morale of a Free People

Educational Policies Commission. National Education Association of the United States and the American Association of School Administrators, 1201 Sixteenth Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C. \$10.

DEMOCRACY REQUIRES morale to win in the present crisis. Education can help produce morale; the schools must and will respond to this need. How the response of the schools can be made is the subject of this document, which is a challenging pamphlet.

### "Sound Off!"

Soldier Songs from the Revolution to World War II. By Edward Arthur Dolph. Farrar and Rinehart Incorporated, New York. \$3.50.

A TREASURY OF ARMY SONGS containing singable, play-songs of American soldiers from Revolutionary days to the present World War. Accompanying each song is a short sketch of the origins and histories of the various tunes and lyrics. There are a number of illustrations.

### Creative Art Crafts

By Pedro de Lemos. Davis Press, Inc., 44 Portland Street, Worcester, Massachusetts. \$3.75.

HUNDREDS OF PROJECTS in paper craft, toy craft, and relief craft are included in this new book with its 78 complete pages of illustrations, 43 of which are in full color.

### Review of Cycling—1943

Edited by Watson N. Nordquist. Obtainable from Mr. Nordquist at 71 Webster Street, Hartford, Connecticut. \$50.

THE 1943 EDITION of the *Review of Cycling* contains a wealth of information for the bicyclist. Among the interesting features of this issue are the History of the

Bicycle League of America and the article on "The Bicycle in War Time" by Roland C. Geist, author of *Bicycling as a Hobby*.

#### Relaxation.

By Josephine L. Rathbone. Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York. \$1.75.

Since this book is concerned with relaxation as an aid to total fitness and not with other aspects of general hygiene, it naturally stresses ways of offsetting and releasing tenseness and emphasizes quiet of body and peace of mind as sources of strength when so much is being asked of the human machine. Dr. Rathbone discusses facts about tension, signs of tension, physical and psychological factors in fatigue, and physical and psychological methods of treatment. Under this last heading, relaxation, recreation, and laughter are stressed as essential.

#### Stories.

A List of Stories to Tell and to Read Aloud. Compiled by Mary Gould Davis and Joan Vatssek. The New York Public Library. \$.50.

Recreation workers will welcome the announcement that a third revision of the classified list of stories prepared by the New York Public Library is now available. The stories are classified under Folk Tales; Heroes; The Tree of Life; Saints; Christmas; Hallowe'en; Spring Festival; and Imaginative Tales. As Frances Clarke Sayers points out in her foreword: "The publication of such a list at this time, in a year of paper shortage and the ever-recurring report, 'out of print,' is an act of faith in the storytellers and their art on the part of the New York Public Library."

#### Boys' Club Farm Labor Corps.

Boys' Clubs of America, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York.

This is a manual for Boys' Club members taking part in the national food production program. Information is given on organization procedure, and there are health, safety, and welfare suggestions. Requirements prepared by the Children's Bureau are set forth, and there is a helpful Bibliography on Youth in Wartime Agriculture listing pamphlets prepared by such organizations as the Boy Scouts of America, Camp Fire Girls, Girl Scouts, the National Board of the Y.W.C.A.'s, the National Council of the Y.M.C.A.'s, Jewish Welfare Board, and similar groups. Walter M. Hall, Director, Program and Personnel Service, states that a very limited number of copies of this booklet are available.

#### Learning to Care for Children.

By Dorothy E. Bradbury and Edna P. Amidon. D. Appleton-Century Company, New York. \$.96.

*Learning to Care for Children* is a contribution to the war effort in that its purpose is to provide boys and girls of high-school age with a sufficient knowledge of the practical aspects of child guidance to enable them to cooperate successfully in taking care of smaller children in their own homes or elsewhere. Suggestions for the play life of the child are offered in a number of chapters.

#### A Christian's Opportunity.

By Felix Morley, Dorothy Thompson, and G. Bromley Oxnam. Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York. \$.50.

This booklet contains three addresses and discussions at Town Hall, New York City, presented as part of a series of religious addresses and discussions under the general theme, "Religion in These Times."

#### The Junior Book of Camping and Woodcraft.

By Bernard S. Mason. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$2.00.

Camprcraft and woodcraft are presented in this volume in a way which would make anyone, young or old, long for the open road. Suggestions on equipment and techniques of fire building and camping are simple and explicit, and there are many diagrams and pictures. To clarify the directions, special attention is given to methods of cooking and making cooking utensils, and recipes are given.

#### Sports Technique Charts.

Prepared by National Section on Women's Athletics Committees. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$1.00 a set.

The National Section on Women's Athletics of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation has prepared charts showing the correct technique for each of ten leading sports—aquatics, archery, badminton, basketball, field hockey, golf, riding, softball, tennis, and volley ball.

#### Children Can Help Themselves.

By Marion Olive Lerrigo, Ph.D. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$2.25.

This book, written in narrative form, introduces David and his parents and gives the successive steps in David's growth and development from birth to his eleventh year. At each period we learn what can be expected from him in the way of accomplishments and skills; what habits of eating, sleeping, and play he and his parents have established; and what his emotional reactions to the world are.

#### Official Track and Field Guide—1943.

Compiled and edited by the Track and Field Rules Committee of the N.C.C.A. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$.50.

Official rules of the National Collegiate Athletic Association are included in this guide, with a number of articles and records, and a review of 1942 college relay meets.

## Officers and Directors of the National Recreation Association

### OFFICERS

HOWARD BRAUCHER, President  
JOHN G. WINANT, First Vice-President  
MRS. OGDEN L. MILLS, Second Vice-President  
SUSAN M. LEE, Third Vice-President  
ROBERT GARRETT, Chairman of the Board  
SUSAN M. LEE, Secretary of the Board  
GUSTAVUS T. KIRBY, Treasurer

### DIRECTORS

F. W. H. ADAMS, New York, N. Y.  
F. GREGG BEMIS, Boston, Mass.  
MRS. ROBERT WOODS BLISS, Washington, D. C.  
HOWARD BRAUCHER, New York, N. Y.  
MRS. WILLIAM BUTTERWORTH, Moline, Ill.  
HENRY L. CORBETT, Portland, Ore.  
MRS. ARTHUR G. CUMMER, Jacksonville, Fla.  
MRS. THOMAS A. EDISON, West Orange, N. J.  
ROBERT GARRETT, Baltimore, Md.  
ROBERT GRANT, 3rd, Jericho, L. I., N. Y.  
AUSTIN E. GRIFFITHS, Seattle, Wash.  
MRS. NORMAN HARROWER, Fitchburg, Mass.  
MRS. MELVILLE H. HASKELL, Tucson, Ariz.  
MRS. CHARLES V. HICKOX, Michigan City, Ind.  
MRS. JOHN D. JAMESON, Sugar Hill, N. H.  
GUSTAVUS T. KIRBY, New York, N. Y.  
H. MCK. LONDON, Indianapolis, Ind.  
ROBERT LASSITER, Charlotte, N. C.  
SUSAN M. LEE, Boston, Mass.  
OTTO T. MALLERY, Philadelphia, Pa.  
CARL E. MILLIKEN, Augusta, Me.  
MRS. OGDEN L. MILLS, Woodbury, N. Y.  
MRS. SIGMUND STERN, San Francisco, Calif.  
MRS. JAMES W. WADSWORTH, Washington, D. C.  
J. C. WALSH, New York, U. Y.  
FREDERICK M. WARBURG, New York, N. Y.  
JOHN G. WINANT, Concord, N. H.  
STANLEY WOODWARD, Washington, D. C.